

**2009
Annual
Reports**



**Town of
Acton,
Massachusetts**

**Two Hundred and Seventy-Fourth
Municipal Year
for the year ending December 31, 2009**

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THIS 2009 ACTON TOWN REPORT IS DEDICATED TO

WILLIAM RYAN

After 34 years of dedicated service, Bill Ryan retired at the end of the 2009 school year as Superintendent. Throughout these years, Bill held many positions within the Acton and Acton-Boxborough school districts, including nine years as Superintendent.

Bill came to Acton in 1975 when he was hired to start the district's Community Education program. Early in 1980's, his position expanded to include overseeing the schools' finances. Bill served as Interim Superintendent from 1992 to 1993, then as Assistant Superintendent until he was appointed Superintendent in 2000.

Bill is highly respected, not only in the school systems among staff, administration and parents, but also throughout the community as a top-notch leader. Bill has strong financial skills that have been instrumental in maintaining our superior school systems throughout the years. Our districts are ranked amongst the highest in the Commonwealth and Bill's leadership and expertise in all areas has contributed significantly to that level of excellence.

Bill is known for having the ability to work with everyone and listen to the needs of teachers, parents, students and community members alike. He is highly regarded amongst his peers and is a true professional in his field. His ability to bring people together and move forward, despite differences in opinions, is a gift from which we have all benefited.

Bill has guided the schools through the construction and renovation of several school buildings. He was instrumental in winning overrides to help fund that construction. Most recently, he hired new principals in Acton's elementary schools and at the AB Regional High School, ensuring the continuation of extraordinary leadership in our schools.

Bill's solid and trustworthy leadership will be missed in the Acton and the Acton-Boxborough School systems. We wish him the best of luck in his retirement, enjoying time with his family and friends, and perhaps moving on to other professional challenges. We appreciate all the service that he has provided to our students and families throughout his 34 years here.

Heather Harer

IN MEMORIAM

Leo Hayes, Jr.
Firefighter

Michael Jackson
Natural Resources Department

Rita Dolan
Board of Health
FANS (Friends of Acton Nursing Services)

Leslie H. Gerhardt
Cemetery Commissioner

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Overview

The economic recession continued to dominate the affairs of Acton. The budgets were impacted when the governor instituted a series of cuts in local aid throughout the year. Some of the cuts in school aid were covered by Federal Stimulus Funds but the town and schools instituted cost cutting measures such as a hiring and spending freeze, deferring nonessential purchases and delaying capital expenditures. As a result of these proactive measures, spending for fiscal year 2009 came in below the approved budget and some funds flowed to free cash, which will help balance the budget in the later years of this recession.

Acton received a strong commendation from Standard & Poor's Bond Rating service when they upgraded Acton's bond rating to AAA. This is the highest rating that a town can receive and is held by only a very small number of towns throughout the nation. The Standard & Poor's analysis of Acton specifically cited Acton's consistent financial management, healthy level of reserves, operating flexibility to manage through a recession, low debt burden and modest capital needs.

Political

Selectman Andy Magee chose to end his years of service as a Selectman. Selectman Magee was a strong voice for environmental issues throughout his term of service and will be sorely missed. In the March annual election, Mike Gowing won election to the Board with 59% of the votes in a hard fought election.

Annual Town Meeting - April 6, 2009

Budget issues dominated Town Meeting. A group of citizens organized a petition campaign to place six items on the warrant to present an alternate budget/budget process to the one recommended by the Board of Selectmen, the Finance Committee and the School Committee. The first article was soundly defeated and their sponsors withdrew the rest.

The last item of business before Annual Town Meeting involved settling a long-standing legal disagreement with W.R. Grace: W.R. Grace had filed a series of legal challenges to the sewer betterment charge they were assessed on their South Acton property when the sewer district was created. Town Meeting approved a settlement where \$1.5 million of the assessment was reduced in return for a lower use of sewer capacity and a conser-

vation restriction on 15 acres of the W.R. Grace land in South Acton. The lowered assessment will be covered by the town's General Fund until another user purchases the extra capacity.

Special Town Meeting - June 23, 2009

Consideration of sewer expansion issues was the major item of business at the June Special Town Meeting. The Sewer Action Committee developed a plan to extend the South Acton Sewer District to include the Spencer/Flint/Tuttle neighborhood. The costs for this project would have been borne by the residents of the affected neighborhood with some help from federal stimulus money via the Massachusetts Water Pollution Abatement Trust to help defray the cost. The motion was supported by a simple majority of the town meeting members but failed to achieve the required 2/3rds vote and thus was defeated.

Priorities for FY10

After Town Meeting, the Board voted for the following officers: Paulina Knibbe, Chair; Peter Berry, Vice Chair; and Lauren Rosenzweig, Clerk. The Board of Selectmen held their annual goal setting meeting and established the following priorities for fiscal year 2010:

Budgeting during the Fiscal Downturn

The Board of Selectmen unanimously agreed that managing the budget in the fiscal downturn was the highest priority for fiscal year 2010. The Board agreed to focus on three steps to help manage the budget:

- Union negotiations. All of the town's organized labor contracts are up for renewal. These negotiations need to reflect the current economic situation.
- Policy Workshop on Health Insurance. The Board organized a policy workshop where the Selectmen learned about the health insurance situation and our options for the future in more detail. The Finance Committee and the School Committee were also invited to this workshop. Some members of the public also attended.
- Cost Savings Initiative. In the spring of 2009, the Finance Committee asked members of the public for suggestions about cost savings that could be implemented by the town and the schools. The Finance Committee did some initial evaluation of these suggestions and then asked the Board of Selectmen and the School Committee to create a joint task force to do

further analysis. This task force is expected to present business cases for the most promising ideas in January of 2010.

Comprehensive Community Plan

The Phase I of the Comprehensive Community Plan was completed in 2009 with over 2,000 Acton residents participating in the discussion about the future of our town. Phase II will consist of developing an action plan that will help protect those things we treasure and help encourage the development of those things we want to see in Acton. In recognition of the current difficult financial climate, town boards and committees assisted by town staff will do the majority of Phase II of the plan. The Planning Board is currently creating a committee to organize this process.

Operational Improvements

The town of Acton depends on over 40 volunteer boards and committees to help provide municipal services. The Board of Selectmen developed a handbook for the use of all Selectmen-appointed board and committees. This handbook will help committees run consistently and help volunteers understand their legal responsibilities as well as the processes and procedures they should use.

Sewer Expansion

The Board of Selectmen created a new committee to consider the wastewater management issues of the Spencer/Flint/Tuttle neighborhood. A majority of this committee consists of residents of the neighborhood with a variety of points of view on the issue.

Finalize creation of Cable Access Corporation

Acton signed a new 10-year license with Comcast Corporation. As part of the negotiations, Comcast agreed to provide ongoing funding for the Public, Education and Government (PEG) access channels in addition to some money for capital improvements for the studio. The studio will continue to be located in the high school but will be enlarged to improve community access and facilitate more extensive use.

The Board of Selectmen created an independent nonprofit organization (Acton Cable Access Television - ACAT) to manage the studio.

Continue Greening of Acton

In January of 2009, the Board of Selectmen created the Green Advisory Board to help facilitate the 'greening of Acton'. Their first responsibility was to focus on reducing Acton's energy use. The town has initiated three projects as a result of the hard work of the GAB:

- **Solar Panels.** The GAB recommended that Acton pursue entering into a power purchase agreement to fund the installation of solar panels on appropriate municipal and school roofs. The Special Town Meeting in June endorsed this idea by extending the length of contracts that the town could enter into for this purpose. In the summer of 2009, the town signed contracts to install solar panels on the roofs of several school and municipal buildings. This project required no capital expense from the town and will reduce Acton's carbon footprint. In addition, the resulting solar power is expected to cut the school and town energy bills by approximately 10% each.
- **Benchmarking current energy use.** The GAB recommended that Acton create a benchmark of current municipal and school energy use in order to be able to measure the effectiveness of energy improvement projects. The process of collecting and entering data for the benchmarking has begun.
- **'Stretch' Building Code.** Massachusetts has developed a 'stretch code' for additional energy efficiency that communities may adopt for new construction and for significant remodeling projects. The GAB recommended that Acton adopt the stretch code. The GAB is currently discussing this with various town boards and committees and other interested groups in Acton. A public hearing will be held on this issue in February of 2010.

Other Issues

Next Generation Daycare Center

A developer purchased land on Main Street near Kelley's Corner and the Route 2 entrance ramps and proposed to build a large daycare center there. Many people in town were concerned about the size of this development in that location. The town denied the building permit and the developer appealed the denial. The matter is currently in litigation.

South Acton Train Station

As part of the improvements on the Fitchburg Line, the MBTA is double-tracking the train line that runs through Acton. They have proposed creating a center platform for accessing both train tracks. The MBTA's design includes a center platform that will be reached by a series of ramps from the current parking lot. Many Acton residents are concerned about how this would look in a historic center

of town as well as how it would impact the convenience of using the train station. Acton has drafted an alternate proposal that involves building two platforms – one for each track. A bridge that would be accessed via elevators would connect the platforms. Acton is currently working with our elected state representatives to try to influence the MBTA to modify their initial design.

Acton will soon celebrate its 275th year. We are a community that has shown over and over that we are willing to step up and serve the public good when we are called upon to do so. As we move into a new decade in a difficult political and economic climate, it will be important that we continue that tradition. It has been a privilege to work with the many volunteers who serve on town boards and committees and in various non-governmental organizations and, of course, with our excellent and hard working staff who make it all possible.

Paulina Knibbe, Chair,
Peter Berry, Vice-Chair
Lauren Rosenzweig, Clerk
Terra Friedrichs, Member
Mike Gowing, Member

TOWN MANAGER

During the course of 2009, economic concerns dominated the National, State, and local landscape. In January 2009, after half the Town's Fiscal Year had passed, the Governor used his so-called 9C powers given to him by the Legislature and cut Local Aid to municipalities. The Town also experienced a downturn in automobile excise tax collections as well as a decrease in investment income. Acton was able to end the Fiscal Year on a positive note by putting into place a hiring and spending freeze that was instituted in the fall of 2008 when the recession started. The Town was also fortunate to avoid a Special Town Meeting this fall due to the Local Aid cuts that occurred after Town Meeting had approved the FY 10 Budget and caused the Town budget to be out of balance. This dilemma was remedied by the use of Federal Stimulus monies to lower the assessment of the Acton-Boxborough Regional Schools.

Despite all these trials and tribulations, there are still things that Acton can feel proud about. The Town managed to have its bond rating upgraded to AAA by Standard and Poor's. This rating is the highest rating available and was achieved primarily because of how the Town has been able to manage fiscal matters during the economic down turn and still be able to preserve its reserve position.

On the capital side, 2009 saw improvements to the Hayward and Main Street intersection and sidewalk improvements on High, Central and Prospect Streets. The Town also purchased open space on Piper Lane as part of the Great Hill Conservation area. Special legislation was also passed by the State Legislature to allow Acton to enter into a long-term lease of the School Street playing fields with the Commonwealth in order to enable the Town to meet the ever-growing demand for recreational fields. As of this writing, the lease has not yet been executed. The Town also applied for and received a Suburban Mobility Grant for a shuttle service to the south Acton Train Station. This service will commence in early 2010.

In January 2009, the first Community Outreach Worker was hired, whose main function is to work with citizens in need and help find them assistance. To that end, the Town instituted the SERVE (Servicing Residents through Volunteers Efforts) program. SERVE is a voluntary donation program funded by Town employees. It was created at the beginning of FY10 and its purpose is to help residents of Acton with food and fuel supplies. It has experienced a great "take off" and the employees' contributions equal \$5,226 on an annualized basis. I am very grateful for the generous donations of our employees in this noble effort.

We are also saddened by the passing of two employees, Firefighter Leo Hayes Jr and Natural Resource Department employee Michael Jackson. Our thoughts are with their families.

I would like to thank the Board of Selectmen for their support during the year as well as all Town employees for their professionalism and dedication during a very trying year.

Steven L. Ledoux, Town Manager

TOWN REPORT COMMITTEE

The Town Report Committee is responsible for the publication of the annual Town Report. This involves notifying and collecting the individual components, proofing the items before and after they are first sent to the printer and serving as a liaison with the printer to ensure that as accurate and complete as possible a Town Report is prepared.

The theme for this year's report is Action in Acton. There are so many meetings and events in this town that residents could be out every night of the week and every weekend and still miss something. Trying to capture all of these events and activities is far beyond the capability of the volunteers putting together the Town Report. The pictures that we have added to the pages are just a miniscule part but do give a general flavor of the activities.

The Town Report is designed as an historical record of the accomplishments of town boards and committees and the hundreds of volunteers who keep the town working. Thanks to everyone who made it possible.

Ann Chang, Chair
Marilyn Peterson
Christine Joyce
Mary Jane Kenny



Acton Garden Club Annual Plant Sale

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT SERVICES

BOARD OF ASSESSORS

The Town's tax base lost more than \$100 million in valuation from FY08. This was due to market changes, reflective January 1, 2008. At the annual classification hearing, the Board of Selectman voted a residential factor of 1 that resulted in a uniform tax rate of \$16.53.

Fiscal Year 2009 Valuation Summary

Property Class	Valuation	% of Total
Residential	3,252,816,010	86.7%
Commercial	336,316,163	9.0%
Industrial	103,515,920	2.8%
Personal Property	58,607,037	1.5%
Total Taxable Value	3,751,255,130	100%

The Board of Assessors regular scheduled meetings are on the first Wednesday of each month at 6:00 P.M. in the Town Hall. Additional meetings are held as needed. Dates and times are posted 48 hours in advance.

Tax Rates

Residential	Com/Ind/PP
\$16.53	\$16.53

Assessors:
David Brown, Chairman
Paul Wexelblat
James Kotanchik
Brian McMullen, Assistant Assessor

HOUSE SALES

St. no.	Address	Sale Date	Sale Price
8	ABEL JONES PL	6/6/2008	474,250
26	AGAWAM RD	6/13/2008	665,000
17	ALCOTT ST	7/16/2008	350,000
94	ARLINGTON ST	7/30/2008	618,000
412	ARLINGTON ST	2/1/2008	631,250
104	AUDUBON DR	7/31/2008	323,000
124	AUDUBON DR	10/30/2008	308,000
128	AUDUBON DR	9/23/2008	280,000
8	BETH CIR	10/15/2008	233,000
24	BETH CIR	7/30/2008	242,000
6	BEVERLY RD	2/29/2008	347,500
237	BROWN BEAR CRSG	8/15/2008	309,900

St. no.	Address	Sale Date	Sale Price
255	BROWN BEAR CRSG	6/27/2008	252,500
4	BULETTE RD	6/23/2008	740,000
154	BUTTERNUT HOLLOW	4/18/2008	283,500
43	CANTERBURY HILL RD	4/22/2008	883,310
50	CANTERBURY HILL RD	11/7/2008	944,426
51	CANTERBURY HILL RD	10/24/2008	999,960
53	CANTERBURY HILL RD	5/29/2008	932,890
75	CANTERBURY HILL RD	12/23/2008	978,350
76	CANTERBURY HILL RD	10/28/2008	1,051,820
78	CANTERBURY HILL RD	12/29/2008	909,683
79	CANTERBURY HILL RD	12/22/2008	919,998
80	CANTERBURY HILL RD	10/31/2008	962,216
81	CANTERBURY HILL RD	7/29/2008	1,112,160
84	CANTERBURY HILL RD	7/9/2008	945,000
85	CANTERBURY HILL RD	11/14/2008	950,918
86	CANTERBURY HILL RD	8/14/2008	999,774
87	CANTERBURY HILL RD	11/25/2008	971,894
89	CANTERBURY HILL RD	12/5/2008	1,005,000
91	CANTERBURY HILL RD	9/10/2008	910,000
92	CANTERBURY HILL RD	6/23/2008	1,196,950
93	CANTERBURY HILL RD	7/14/2008	991,715
95	CANTERBURY HILL RD	10/29/2008	961,679
96	CANTERBURY HILL RD	6/18/2008	955,045
97	CANTERBURY HILL RD	5/9/2008	996,320
98	CANTERBURY HILL RD	4/1/2008	920,000
99	CANTERBURY HILL RD	5/16/2008	1,013,740
100	CANTERBURY HILL RD	2/26/2008	942,450
101	CANTERBURY HILL RD	1/9/2008	979,005
103	CANTERBURY HILL RD	3/10/2008	917,590
105	CANTERBURY HILL RD	1/24/2008	960,880
106	CANTERBURY HILL RD	7/1/2008	1,022,270
109	CANTERBURY HILL RD	2/11/2008	802,498
111	CANTERBURY HILL RD	3/24/2008	901,370
5	CENTENNIAL LN	6/20/2008	684,888
10	CENTENNIAL LN	12/29/2008	721,983
3	CENTRAL ST	3/25/2008	320,000
5	CENTRAL ST	4/11/2008	329,000
65	CENTRAL ST	2/15/2008	295,000
212	CENTRAL ST	5/21/2008	157,900
249	CENTRAL ST	8/1/2008	700,000
369	CENTRAL ST	10/14/2008	380,000
396	CENTRAL ST	6/30/2008	455,000
73	CHARTER RD	5/21/2008	345,000
17	CHEROKEE RD	10/30/2008	352,000
9	CHERRY RIDGE RD	7/31/2008	425,000
1	CHESTNUT ST	1/31/2008	765,000
6	COLONIAL PA	1/24/2008	761,206
5	CONANT ST	5/30/2008	456,800
31	CONANT ST	6/5/2008	558,106
59	CONANT ST	6/27/2008	529,100
3	CONCETTA CIR	7/1/2008	799,000

St. no.	Address	Sale Date	Sale Price	St. no.	Address	Sale Date	Sale Price
7	COOLIDGE DR	7/31/2008	642,000	39	HARTLAND WY	5/29/2008	395,000
12	COOLIDGE DR	12/12/2008	720,000	27	HARTLAND WY #104	7/24/2008	225,000
10	COUNTRY CLUB RD	8/22/2008	491,000	19	HAYWARD RD	6/28/2008	390,000
23	DAVIS RD #A13	4/8/2008	123,000	1	HEATHER HILL RD	3/3/2008	495,000
17	DAVIS RD #A16	10/24/2008	115,000	3	HEATHER HILL RD	7/31/2008	503,600
9	DAVIS RD #A2	4/11/2008	153,000	7	HENLEY RD	3/28/2008	385,000
15	DAVIS RD #B14	2/14/2008	99,000	5	HERITAGE RD	6/30/2008	416,500
19	DAVIS RD #B5	2/22/2008	110,000	2	HICKORY HILL TRL	7/18/2008	649,999
9	DAVIS RD #B8	3/28/2008	118,000	55	HIGH ST	2/1/2008	375,000
23	DAVIS RD #C7	8/15/2008	150,000	157	HIGH ST	6/24/2008	360,000
3	DEVON DR	6/10/2008	386,900	267	HIGH ST	2/19/2008	305,000
21	DRUMMER RD	6/30/2008	225,000	15	HILLCREST DR	6/30/2008	395,000
38	DRUMMER RD	10/21/2008	233,000	17	HILLCREST DR	6/16/2008	379,000
79	DRUMMER RD	12/22/2008	195,300	5	HORSESHOE DR	11/3/2008	460,000
4	DRUMMER RD #E3	10/30/2008	153,000	17	HORSESHOE DR	7/25/2008	560,000
6	DRUMMER RD #F2	9/23/2008	128,900	103	HOSMER ST	7/31/2008	494,888
35	DUGGAN RD	7/21/2008	408,000	2	JAY LN	5/30/2008	906,000
8	DUNHAM LN	7/31/2008	775,000	26	JOHN SWIFT RD	6/4/2008	400,000
7	DURKEE RD	5/29/2008	380,000	3	JOSEPH REED LN	6/10/2008	615,000
6	ELLSWORTH VILLAGE RD	5/23/2008	150,000	4	KELLEY RD	8/22/2008	704,500
15	ELLSWORTH VILLAGE RD	2/22/2008	449,000	2	KNOWLTON DR	6/20/2008	615,800
3	ELM ST UNIT 3	8/4/2008	180,000	24	LEXINGTON DR	6/6/2008	694,000
3	ELM ST UNIT 7	8/12/2008	180,000	49	LEXINGTON DR	8/8/2008	696,800
8	ETHAN ALLEN DR	11/25/2008	440,000	23	LINCOLN DR	7/30/2008	785,000
31	ETHAN ALLEN DR	4/30/2008	410,000	4	LISA LN	10/8/2008	640,000
1	EVERGREEN WY	8/11/2008	695,000	14	LONG RIDGE RD	11/24/2008	587,250
2	FARMSTEAD WY	8/15/2008	720,000	4	LOOSESTICK WY	2/27/2008	700,000
6	FARMSTEAD WY	7/1/2008	825,000	7	MAGNOLIA DR	7/15/2008	480,000
44	FAULKNER HILL RD	8/28/2008	525,000	348	MAIN ST	2/20/2008	275,000
35	FLINT RD	10/30/2008	512,000	352	MAIN ST	3/31/2008	420,000
53	FLINT RD	8/28/2008	440,000	446	MAIN ST	6/30/2008	383,000
56	FLINT RD	6/18/2008	427,500	491	MAIN ST	6/17/2008	1,060,000
43	FORT POND RD	8/28/2008	790,000	767	MAIN ST	5/30/2008	315,000
53	FORT POND RD	4/3/2008	665,000	246	MAIN ST #4	4/30/2008	283,500
9	FRANKLIN PL	10/14/2008	525,000	276	MAIN ST #C7	8/15/2008	208,000
7	GRACE PA	8/8/2008	621,000	542	MASS AV	8/4/2008	360,750
423	GREAT ELM WY	8/8/2008	305,000	205	MEADOWS EDGE	12/24/2008	225,000
424	GREAT RD #11	10/10/2008	107,000	1	MEETINGHOUSE RD	11/7/2008	232,000
424	GREAT RD #13	1/11/2008	115,500	3	MEETINGHOUSE RD	5/30/2008	222,000
407	GREAT RD #5	8/25/2008	224,500	5	MEETINGHOUSE RD	3/27/2008	190,000
424	GREAT RD #6	2/15/2008	105,000	7	MEETINGHOUSE RD	9/30/2008	239,000
205	GREAT RD #A10	2/29/2008	90,000	27	MEYER HILL DR	6/5/2008	437,500
209	GREAT RD #C7	8/29/2008	143,000	47	MEYER HILL DR	12/22/2008	430,000
384	GREAT RD A301	12/15/2008	140,000	49	MEYER HILL DR	10/3/2008	460,000
390	GREAT RD B21	8/29/2008	133,750	14	MILLDAM RD	8/15/2008	680,000
4	GREENWOOD LN	11/18/2008	520,000	5	MINOT AV	5/30/2008	504,000
9	GREENWOOD LN	7/14/2008	550,000	28	MINOT AV	6/28/2008	740,000
14	GRIST MILL RD	7/14/2008	615,000	14	MINUTEMAN RD	8/28/2008	485,400
28	HARRIS ST #A2	5/20/2008	203,500	50	MOHAWK DR	6/28/2008	447,000
18	HARTLAND WY	5/19/2008	360,000	12	MOHEGAN RD	10/1/2008	495,000
23	HARTLAND WY	8/18/2008	362,820	7	MONROE DR	6/20/2008	910,000
33	HARTLAND WY	6/13/2008	379,900	14	MUSKET DR	11/14/2008	585,975
34	HARTLAND WY	10/7/2008	321,900	21	NAGOG HILL RD	8/12/2008	592,000
36	HARTLAND WY	6/20/2008	300,000	77	NAGOG HILL RD	5/8/2008	339,500

St. no.	Address	Sale Date	Sale Price	St. no.	Address	Sale Date	Sale Price
296	NAGOG HILL RD	8/5/2008	820,000	65	RIVER ST	7/15/2008	320,000
334	NAGOG HILL RD	2/5/2008	625,000	82	RIVER ST	9/29/2008	125,000
9	NASH RD	5/29/2008	479,300	68	ROBBINS ST	11/7/2008	402,500
44	NASHOBA RD	1/29/2008	900,000	7	ROBERT RD	6/12/2008	595,000
64	NASHOBA RD	4/27/2008	290,000	8	SAWMILL RD	5/28/2008	620,000
43	NEWTOWN RD	6/30/2008	525,000	172	SCHOOL ST	7/8/2008	440,000
89	NEWTOWN RD	11/13/2008	490,000	201	SCHOOL ST	6/18/2008	325,000
200	NEWTOWN RD	9/29/2008	800,000	75	SEMINOLE RD	6/13/2008	730,000
231	NEWTOWN RD	6/27/2008	620,000	6	SETTLEMENT WY	6/30/2008	676,000
112	NONSET PA	12/22/2008	453,000	176	SPLIT ROCK DR	6/30/2008	295,000
15	NYLANDER WY	10/24/2008	516,000	9	SQUIRREL HILL RD	2/29/2008	718,000
2	OAKWOOD RD	9/29/2008	414,000	19	SQUIRREL HILL RD	7/21/2008	732,000
24	OAKWOOD RD	5/30/2008	367,000	30	SQUIRREL HILL RD	8/28/2008	575,000
375	OLD BEAVERBROOK	10/31/2008	290,000	8	STACYS WY	10/3/2008	856,000
19	OLD VILLAGE RD	8/25/2008	675,000	40	STONEYMEADE WY	8/15/2008	1,010,000
35	OLD VILLAGE RD	8/15/2008	726,000	56	STRAWBERRY HILL RD	7/1/2008	415,000
3	OLDE LANTERN RD	5/19/2008	485,000	108	SUMMER ST	3/31/2008	375,000
15	ONEIDA RD	8/29/2008	491,000	35	TAYLOR RD	8/25/2008	410,000
17	ONEIDA RD	10/8/2008	508,000	45	TAYLOR RD	7/1/2008	313,000
42	ONEIDA RD	9/15/2008	355,000	66	TAYLOR RD	4/11/2008	625,000
4	PALMER LN	1/3/2008	915,000	68	TAYLOR RD	3/19/2008	532,450
46	PARKER ST	11/24/2008	355,000	505	TUMBLING HAWK	6/5/2008	268,000
47	PARKER ST	8/1/2008	375,000	5	VALLEY RD	7/24/2008	777,000
48	PARKER ST	12/16/2008	357,500	9	WAMPUS AV #A8	12/10/2008	132,500
81	PARKER ST	10/24/2008	292,000	7	WAMPUS AV #B12	12/2/2008	50,000
118	PARKER ST #14	4/30/2008	59,900	10	WAMPUS AVE #11	7/31/2008	205,000
118	PARKER ST #16	7/10/2008	141,500	10	WAMPUS AVE #12	3/31/2008	195,000
118	PARKER ST #32	7/10/2008	140,625	16	WAMPUS AVE #12	2/19/2008	157,500
120	PARKER ST #34	9/29/2008	122,000	12	WAMPUS AVE #22	4/29/2008	130,000
8	PARTRIDGE POND RD	8/18/2008	727,500	14	WAMPUS AVE #22	8/22/2008	145,000
9	PATRIOTS RD	6/3/2008	585,000	10	WAMPUS AVE #23	7/18/2008	179,000
647	PHEASANT HILL	9/29/2008	265,000	10	WAMPUS AVE #32	2/15/2008	214,900
590	PINE CONE STRAND	6/23/2008	278,000	16	WAMPUS AVE #32	11/17/2008	175,000
205	POPE RD	7/30/2008	646,400	26	WASHINGTON DR	7/1/2008	643,000
336	POPE RD	5/12/2008	956,700	52	WASHINGTON DR	1/31/2008	585,000
340	POPE RD	6/25/2008	965,000	70	WASHINGTON DR	6/30/2008	605,000
7	PROCTOR ST	7/31/2008	985,000	1	WHEELWRIGHT LN	7/30/2008	627,000
54	PROSPECT ST	2/14/2008	326,000	10	WHITTIER DR	6/2/2008	500,000
120	PROSPECT ST	7/23/2008	440,000	3	WILLIS HOLDEN DR	6/18/2008	720,000
139	PROSPECT ST #12	2/21/2008	565,000	22	WILLIS HOLDEN DR	8/29/2008	715,000
139	PROSPECT ST #2	12/15/2008	508,000	28	WILLOW ST	5/16/2008	176,500
139	PROSPECT ST #3	6/26/2008	154,400	126	WILLOW ST	1/31/2008	462,500
139	PROSPECT ST #4	10/31/2008	495,000	164	WILLOW ST	6/2/2008	600,000
159	PROSPECT ST #4	2/8/2008	525,000	8	WILSON LN	6/27/2008	656,000
139	PROSPECT ST #6	7/10/2008	171,700	18	WILSON LN	9/30/2008	690,800
159	PROSPECT ST #6	4/11/2008	545,000	2	WINDEMERE DR	6/5/2008	565,000
139	PROSPECT ST #9	6/19/2008	171,700	8	WINDEMERE DR	3/31/2008	570,000
6	QUAIL RUN	10/1/2008	672,500	1	WINDINGWOOD LN	6/27/2008	455,000
19	RAILROAD ST #A2	7/14/2008	205,000	18	WINDINGWOOD LN	7/18/2008	585,000
19	RAILROAD ST #A3	1/23/2008	198,000	21	WINDINGWOOD LN	5/28/2008	460,000
19	RAILROAD ST #B3	4/14/2008	194,000	7	WINTER ST	3/21/2008	336,000
19	RAILROAD ST #D2	2/21/2008	287,000	52	WOOD LN	8/14/2008	708,000
19	RAILROAD ST #E3	1/31/2008	279,000				
15	REEVE ST	7/21/2008	877,300				

ELIZABETH WHITE FUND

A permanent fund was bequeathed to the Town of Acton by George R. White [1847-1922], in memory of his mother, Elizabeth. The income from the fund is to be used only "in relieving the necessities of the deserving poor and unfortunate. It shall be the duty of the Town to anticipate such necessity of aid and assistance by inquiry and investigation, in advance of the claims as far as possible, in order that sensitive and deserving people may receive assistance, who might, because of publicity, refrain from making an application for aid."

The Board of Selectmen approved the White Fund Trustees' request for a total distribution of \$2,200. The funds were given to individuals and households in need.

Trustees:
Cornelia Huber
Frank Joyner
Andrea Miller

FINANCE COMMITTEE

The charter of Acton's Finance Committee as stated in the Town bylaws is to "consider any and all municipal questions for the purpose of making reports and recommendations...the Finance Committee shall include in its duties the review of and recommendations concerning the budget for the annual meeting, the review of and recommendations concerning any other matter of financial nature arising at the annual meeting or at any special meeting, and the preparation of long range fiscal plans for the Town." The Finance Committee fulfills this role in a variety of ways.

The Finance Committee generally meets twice a month and more frequently in preparation for the annual Town Meeting or for Special Town Meetings as appropriate. Committee members serve on many standing committees and task forces including the Health Insurance Trust, Wastewater Advisory Neighborhood Taskforce (WANT), the South Acton Train Station Advisory Committee and the Economic Development Committee (EDC). We have regular observers for the Board of Selectmen, the Community Preservation Committee, the Acton Community Housing Corporation, both the Acton Public and the Acton-Boxborough Regional School District committees and the Planning Board.

In 2009, the Finance Committee sought to work in collaboration with the constituent boards as the budgets were developed. We engaged in the independent examination of the major budget expense drivers and the availability of revenues to assess the base budget prior to the discussion of new initiatives. Resulting from this work was the publica-

tion of the Finance Committee's "Point of View" which we circulated to our budget partners as guidance. In recognition of the volatility in the economy during 2009, the Finance Committee issued an unprecedented Interim Point of View suggesting that the budgets be managed at 97 percent of appropriated totals. Enhancing our work this year were presentations on financial operations by both Town and School staff, a joint meeting with the Board of Selectmen introducing their budget priorities, and presentations by the new Superintendent of Schools. The Finance Committee significantly benefits from this high level of interaction with the Town's elected officials and staff and we believe this model contributes to a greater understanding on all sides of the financial challenges before us.

This year the Finance Committee established a subcommittee, chaired by Vice Chair Mary Ann Ashton, to evaluate over one hundred cost savings suggestions solicited from citizens, and work with town elected officials and associated staff to implement as many of these suggestions as possible.

The Chair and the Vice Chair represent the Finance Committee on the Acton Leadership Group (ALG). This group, which includes members of the Board of Selectmen and the School Committee as well as representatives of the town and school administrations, uses a consensus process to formulate the annual budget proposal for Town Meeting and develops projections for planning purposes.

Members:
Herman Kabakoff, Chair
Mary Ann Ashton, Vice Chair
Bill Mullin, Clerk
Patricia Clifford
Pat Easterly
Bob Evans
Steve Noone
Kent Sharp
Doug Tindal
Maynard Brandon (Associate)

TOWN ACCOUNTANT _____

I respectfully submit the following for the 2009 Annual Report of the Town of Acton:

Financial Reports for the period ended June 30, 2009:

- 1) Statement of Revenues and Expenditures
– General Fund
- 2) Detailed Budget Object Report
- 3) Trust Fund Activity – Principal and Income

My sincere thanks to Karen Kucala, Lisa Krause, Susan Pierce, and Kristen Caouette for all their hard work for the department. Their dedication to the Town has been tremendous and I'm honored to work along side them.

Respectfully Submitted,

Stephen G. Barrett CPA
Finance Director

**TOWN OF ACTON, MASSACHUSETTS
GENERAL FUND
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2009**

UNAUDITED

	GENERAL FUND
REVENUES:	
REAL ESTATE AND PERSONAL PROPERTY TAXES	
NET OF TAX REFUNDS	\$61,235,586
INTERGOVERNMENTAL	10,791,896
MOTOR VEHICLE EXCISE	2,520,198
PENALTIES & INTEREST ON TAXES	115,996
INVESTMENT INCOME	278,320
DEPARTMENTAL & OTHER INCOME	831,100
TOTAL REVENUES	75,773,096
EXPENDITURES:	
CURRENT:	
GENERAL GOVERNMENT	5,295,427
PUBLIC SAFETY	6,322,884
EDUCATION	47,354,823
PUBLIC WORKS	2,696,103
HUMAN SERVICES	1,133,770
LIBRARY	1,089,428
PENSION	5,520,562
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	2,774,891
STATE & COUNTY ASSESSMENTS	234,647
DEBT SERVICE	2,931,179
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	75,353,714
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUES OVER EXPENDITURES	419,382
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)	
OPERATING TRANSFERS IN	818,545
OPERATING TRANSFERS OUT	(101,061)
TOTAL OTHER FINANCING USES	717,484
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUES AND OTHER FINANCING SOURCES OVER (UNDER) EXPENDITURES AND OTHER FINANCING USES	1,136,866
FUND BALANCE AT BEGINNING OF YEAR	8,731,815
FUND BALANCE AT END OF YEAR	\$9,868,681

TOWN OF ACTON

DEPARTMENT OBJECT BUDGET

SUB ACCT	DESCRIPTION	FY2009 BUDGET	FY2009 EXPENDITURES	% Expended 2009
ACCOUNTANT/COMPTROLLER				
5100	Personal Services	\$271,721	102.42%	
5200	Services	\$450	\$385	85.46%
5400	Supplies	\$600	\$1,007	167.83%
	DEPARTMENT TOTAL	\$266,355	\$273,113	102.54%
ASSESSORS				
5100	Personal Services	\$196,943	\$195,934	99.49%
5200	Services	\$26,700	\$20,692	77.50%
5400	Supplies	\$1,600	\$597	37.33%
	DEPARTMENT TOTAL	\$225,243	\$217,222	96.44%
BUILDING INSPECTOR				
5100	Personal Services	\$179,135	\$164,055	91.58%
5200	Services	\$1,300	\$658	50.61%
5400	Supplies	\$4,450	\$5,028	112.98%
	DEPARTMENT TOTAL	\$184,885	\$169,741	91.81%
CELEBRATIONS				
5200	Services	\$36,750	\$71,310	194.04%
5400	Supplies	\$2,920	\$2,074	71.01%
	DEPARTMENT TOTAL	\$39,670	\$73,384	184.99%
TOWN CLERK				
5100	Personal Services	\$143,542	\$145,573	101.41%
5200	Services	\$1,600	\$329	20.56%
5400	Supplies	\$1,650	\$1,849	112.08%
	DEPARTMENT TOTAL	\$146,792	\$147,751	100.65%
CIVIL DEFENSE				
5200	Services	\$2,102	\$416	19.77%
5400	Supplies	\$2,834	\$-	0.00%
	DEPARTMENT TOTAL	\$4,936	\$416	8.42%
COA/COUNCIL ON AGING				
5100	Personal Services	\$185,456	\$183,044	98.70%
5200	Services	\$11,651	\$10,000	85.83%
5400	Supplies	\$8,440	\$7,081	83.90%
5600	Intergovernmental	\$2,857	\$2,896	101.37%
	DEPARTMENT TOTAL	\$208,404	\$203,020	97.42%
COLLECTOR				
5100	Personal Services	\$210,265	\$103,978	49.45%
5200	Services	\$43,450	\$29,302	67.44%
5400	Supplies	\$23,500	\$266	1.13%
	DEPARTMENT TOTAL	\$277,215	\$133,545	48.17%
COMMISSION ON DISABILITIES				
5200	Services	\$1,545	\$133	8.63%
	DEPARTMENT TOTAL	\$1,545	\$133	8.63%

SUB ACCT	DESCRIPTION	FY2009 BUDGET	FY2009 EXPENDITURES	% Expended 2009
DISPATCH				
5100	Personal Services	\$403,063	\$390,363	96.85%
	DEPARTMENT TOTAL	\$403,063	\$390,363	96.85%
DOG OFFICER				
5200	Services	\$16,000	\$14,524	90.77%
	DEPARTMENT TOTAL	\$16,000	\$14,524	90.77%
ELECTIONS				
5100	Personal Services	\$3,800	\$3,831	100.81%
5200	Services	\$31,475	\$47,829	151.96%
5400	Supplies	\$17,700	\$6,854	38.72%
	DEPARTMENT TOTAL	\$52,975	\$58,514	110.46%
ENGINEERING				
5100	Personal Services	\$241,946	\$235,418	97.30%
5200	Services	\$13,350	\$13,274	99.43%
5400	Supplies	\$3,600	\$2,427	67.40%
5800	Capital Outlay	\$1,505		
	DEPARTMENT TOTAL	\$258,896	\$252,624	97.58%
FINANCE DIRECTOR				
5100	Personal Services	\$221,567	\$160,269	72.33%
5200	Services	\$129,050	\$145,387	112.66%
5400	Supplies	\$85,000	\$55,640	65.46%
5600	Intergovernmental	\$43,116	\$43,116	100.00%
5700	Other Appropriations	\$5,851,976	\$5,477,475	93.60%
5900	Debt/Other Financing Sources	\$2,956,755	\$2,967,206	100.35%
	DEPARTMENT TOTAL	\$9,287,464	\$8,849,093	95.28%
FINANCE COMMITTEE				
5200	Services	\$1,030	\$268	26.02%
5700	Other Appropriations	\$-	\$-	
	DEPARTMENT TOTAL	\$1,030	\$268	26.02%
FIRE				
5100	Personal Services	\$2,728,220	\$2,727,348	99.97%
5200	Services	\$31,026	\$28,979	93.40%
5400	Supplies	\$60,069	\$50,762	84.51%
5600	Intergovernmental	\$-	0.00%	
5800	Capital Outlay	\$18,540	\$12,654	68.25%
	DEPARTMENT TOTAL	\$2,840,430	\$2,819,743	99.27%
HEALTH				
5100	Personal Services	\$98,116	\$91,441	93.20%
5200	Services	\$46,380	\$38,175	82.31%
5400	Supplies	\$1,500	\$8,131	542.04%
	DEPARTMENT TOTAL	\$145,996	\$137,746	94.35%
HIGHWAY				
5100	Personal Services	\$914,216	\$931,379	101.88%
5200	Services	\$556,397	\$434,049	78.01%
5400	Supplies	\$609,735	\$538,196	88.27%
5700	Other Appropriations	\$13,356	\$13,000	97.33%
5800	Capital Outlay	\$282,315	\$329,117	116.58%
	DEPARTMENT TOTAL	\$2,376,019	\$2,245,740	94.52%

SUB ACCT	DESCRIPTION	FY2009 BUDGET	FY2009 EXPENDITURES	% Expended 2009
HISTORICAL COMMISSION				
5400	Supplies	\$600	\$-	0.00%
	DEPARTMENT TOTAL	\$600	\$-	0.00%
HUMAN RESOURCES				
5100	Personal Services	\$158,929	\$128,110	80.61%
5200	Services	\$76,610	\$48,229	62.95%
5400	Supplies	\$2,600	\$2,133	82.03%
	DEPARTMENT TOTAL	\$238,139	\$178,472	74.94%
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY				
5100	Personal Services	\$238,305	\$174,707	73.31%
5200	Services	\$718,250	\$675,054	93.99%
5400	Supplies	\$750	\$184	24.49%
5800	Capital Outlay	\$30,000	\$24,522	81.74%
	DEPARTMENT TOTAL	\$987,305	\$874,466	88.57%
TOWN MANAGER				
5100	Personal Services	\$432,894	\$414,136	95.67%
5200	Services	\$637,492	\$780,442	122.42%
5400	Supplies	\$25,350	\$28,753	113.42%
5800	Capital Outlay	\$-	\$1	
	DEPARTMENT TOTAL	\$1,095,736	\$1,223,331	111.64%
MEMORIAL LIBRARY				
5100	Personal Services	\$796,868	\$815,917	102.39%
5200	Services	\$43,080	\$40,522	94.06%
5400	Supplies	\$165,750	\$160,831	97.03%
5700	Other Appropriations	\$74,531	\$-	\$-
	DEPARTMENT TOTAL	\$1,005,698	\$1,017,270	101.15%
TOWN MEETING MODERATOR				
5100	Personal Services	\$200	\$40	20.00%
5400	Supplies	\$20	\$-	0.00%
	DEPARTMENT TOTAL	\$220	\$40	18.18%
MUNICIPAL PROPERTIES				
5100	Personal Services	\$467,321	\$456,300	97.64%
5200	Services	\$956,542	\$773,476	80.86%
5400	Supplies	\$46,260	\$49,632	107.29%
5800	Capital Items	\$23,000	\$132,199	574.78%
	DEPARTMENT TOTAL	\$1,493,123	\$1,411,606	94.54%
NATURAL RESOURCES/CEMETERY				
5100	Personal Services	\$562,984	\$512,918	91.11%
5200	Services	\$20,050	\$22,240	110.92%
5400	Supplies	\$26,625	\$13,813	51.88%
5800	Capital Items	\$-	\$97,277	
	DEPARTMENT TOTAL	\$609,659	\$646,248	106.00%
PLANNING BOARD				
5100	Personal Services	\$166,355	\$181,792	109.28%
5200	Services	\$4,780	\$2,819	58.98%
5400	Supplies	\$3,500	\$1,115	31.84%
	DEPARTMENT TOTAL	\$174,635	\$185,726	106.35%

SUB ACCT	DESCRIPTION	FY2009 BUDGET	FY2009 EXPENDITURES	% Expended 2009
POLICE				
5100	Personal Services	\$2,625,529	\$2,678,197	102.01%
5200	Services	\$39,225	\$35,576	90.70%
5400	Supplies	\$56,000	\$50,632	90.41%
5800	Capital Outlay	\$164,500	\$159,971	97.25%
	DEPARTMENT TOTAL	\$2,885,254	\$2,924,375	101.36%
VETERANS SERVICE				
5100	Personal Services	\$1,699	\$6,950	409.06%
5200	Services	\$1,050	\$924	87.97%
5400	Supplies	\$200	\$19	9.35%
5700	Other Appropriations	\$19,500	\$44,819	229.84%
	DEPARTMENT TOTAL	\$22,449	\$52,712	234.81%
WEST ACTON LIBRARY				
5100	Personal Services	\$36,094	\$36,075	99.95%
5200	Services	\$110	\$-	
5400	Supplies	\$6,230	\$6,009	96.46%
	DEPARTMENT TOTAL	\$42,324	\$42,085	99.43%
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS				
5400	Supplies	\$400	\$37	9.23%
	DEPARTMENT TOTAL	\$400	\$37	9.23%
GRAND TOTAL		\$25,292,460	\$24,543,308	-2.96%
Article 18		\$24,448,035.00		
Article 23		\$95,273.00		
Total Expended		\$24,543,308.00		

**TOWN OF ACTON
TRUST FUNDS
NON-EXPENDABLE FY09**

UNAUDITED

	ACCOUNT	BEG BAL 7/1/2008	EXPENSES	JOURNAL ENTRY TRF IN/OUT	END BAL 6/30/2009
PRINCIPAL					
T-16 ELIZABETH WHITE	7002	25,110.00		0.00	25,110.00
T-28 VARNUMN TUTTLE MEM'L	7003	10,000.00			10,000.00
T-05 BETSY BALL CHARITY	7004	10,095.26			10,095.26
T-18 GEORGIA WHITNEY CHAR	7005	14,073.70			14,073.70
TOTAL CHARITY TRUST FUNDS		59,278.96	0.00	0.00	59,278.96
T-01 CHARLOTTE GOODNOW					
	7006	3,000.00			3,000.00
TOTAL RELIGIOUS TRUST		3,000.00		0.00	3,000.00
T-37 ACTON YOUTH					
	7007	21,074.00		20.00	21,094.00
T-40 JAMES KINSLEY	7008	1,000.00			1,000.00
DRUM TRICENTENNIAL FUND	7009	0.00			0.00
T-02 FIREMEN RELIEF	7010	11,145.00		(11,145.00)	0.00
T-32 W ACTON FIRE RELIEF	7011	0.00			0.00
ACTON FIREFIGHTERS RELIEF FUND	7058	0.00		163,670.74	163,670.74
CONSERVATION FUND	7012	0.00			0.00
TOTAL MISC TRUST		33,219.00	0.00	152,545.74	185,764.74
T-31 WATSON FUND					
	7014	2,500.00			2,500.00
T-21 HOIT & SCOTT FUND	7015	500.00			500.00
T-10 DR ROBERT DAVIS	7016	1,000.00			1,000.00
T-20 FRANK HAYWARD	7017	1,000.00			1,000.00
T-03 GEORGE AMES	7018	465.49			465.49
T-19 GEORGIA WHITNEY	7019	1,500.00			1,500.00
T-15 ROBBINS & AMES	7020	21,210.08			21,210.08
CAPTAIN ROBBINS	7021	2,500.00			2,500.00
T-13 ROBBINS WOODLAND	7022	1,500.00			1,500.00
T-34 JENKS FAMILY	7023	142,176.26			142,176.26
T-12 ELDRIDGE ROBBINS	7024	1,000.00			1,000.00
T-11 MARTHA DESMOND	7025	3,000.00			3,000.00
T-05 NEW PERPETUAL CARE	7026	949,341.00		44,960.00	994,301.00
T-25 RAYMOND MONUMENT	7027	700.00			700.00
T-06 OLD PERPETUAL CARE	7028	178,259.92			178,259.92
T-04 ARLETTE APLEYARD	7029	2,000.00			2,000.00
T-26 RAYMOND CARE	7030	2,000.00			2,000.00
T-35 MARY SMITH FUND	7031	2,000.00			2,000.00
T-27 HOSMER	7032	102,238.95			102,238.95
T-29 WETHERBEE	7033	10,000.00			10,000.00
T-36 ERNEST JONES	7034	1,000.00			1,000.00
T-24 BLANCHARD	7035	2,419.24			2,419.24
T-07 AB CONANT FAMILY	7036	1,000.00			1,000.00
T-23 FRANK KNOWLTON	7037	1,000.00			1,000.00
T-22 MRS ONEIL	7038	372.39			372.39
T-33 WELLS	7039	3,000.00			3,000.00
PORTER JENKS	7040	76,977.01			76,977.01
TOTAL CEMETERY TRUST FUND		1,510,660.34	0.00	44,960.00	1,555,620.34

	ACCOUNT	BEG BAL 7/1/2008	EXPENSES	JOURNAL ENTRY TRF IN/OUT	END BAL 6/30/2009
T-17 GEORGIA WHITNEY	7013	15,000.00			15,000.00
T-01 HIGH SCHOOL	7041	4,000.00			4,000.00
T-90 KATHERINE M. KINSLEY	7042	9,461.75			9,461.75
T-88 WILLIAM A WILD	7043	9,006.00			9,006.00
T-78 SUSAN/LUTHER CONANT	7044	1,532.00			1,532.00
T-86 LUKE TUTTLE	7045	200.00			200.00
T-84 NEWELL B TAINTER	7046	11,849.79			11,849.79
T-82 LIBRARY PLANTER	7047	1,000.00			1,000.00
T-80 MILDRED P MOORE	7046	2,000.00			2,000.00
T-70 MARK CLAPP	7049	1,142.00			1,142.00
T-76 HIRAM J HAPGOOD	7050	200.00			200.00
T-72 CHARLOTTE CONANT	7051	1,500.00			1,500.00
T-74 MINNIE DAVIS	7052	336.50			336.50
FLORENE GRANDINE	7053	20,672.34			20,672.34
ACTON MEM'L LBY FUND	7055	0.00			0.00
TOTAL LIBRARY & ED TRUST		77,900.38	0.00	0.00	77,900.38
TOTAL NON-EXPENDABLE TRUST		1,684,058.68	0.00	197,505.74	1,881,564.42

**TOWN OF ACTON
TRUST FUNDS
EXPENDABLE FY09**

UNAUDITED

INCOME ACCOUNTS	ACCOUNT	BEG BAL 7/1/2008	EXPENDITURES	REVENUES	JOURNAL ENTRY	END BAL 6/30/2009
					TRF IN/OUT	
T-16 ELIZABETH WHITE FUND	7002	2,411.37	(2,351.83)	1,012.65	0.00	1,072.19
T-28 VARNUM TUTTLE MEM'L	7003	123,035.39	(5,147.58)	3,563.02	121,450.83	
7-05 BETSEY BALL CHARITY	7004	63,062.20	(11,907.43)	2,147.21	53,301.98	
T-18 GEORGIA WHITNEY CHAR	7005	25,283.06	(1,202.15)	1,110.74	25,191.65	
TOTAL CHARITY TRUST FUNDS		213,792.02	(20,608.99)	7,833.62	0.00	201,016.65
T-01 CHARLOTTE GOODNOW	7006	451.83	(17.56)	91.58	525.85	
TOTAL RELIGIOUS FUND	451.83	(17.56)	91.58	0.00	525.85	
T-37 JENKS - ACTON YOUTH FD	7007	2,942.10	(2,097.64)	786.69	(20.00)	1,611.15
T-40 JAMES KINSLEY FUND	7008	7,005.83	(40.54)	212.56	7,177.85	
DRUM TRICENTENNIAL FUND	7009	901.43	(4.57)	23.82	0.00	920.68
FIREMEN'S RELIEF FUND	7010	189,845.94	(48,870.46)	5,330.62	(146,306.10)	0.00
T-32 W. ACTON FIRE RELIEF	7011	16,995.91	(84.23)	452.96	(17,364.64)	0.00
ACTON FIREFIGHTERS RELIEF FUND	7058	0.00	-	-	11,145.00	11,145.00
CONSERVATION FUND	7012	41,870.14	(212.21)	1,103.32	42,761.25	
TOTAL MISC TRUST FUND	259,561.35	(51,309.65)	7,909.97	(152,545.74)	63,615.93	
T-31 WATSON FUND	7014	6,592.47	(307.35)	262.68	6,547.80	
T-21 HOIT & SCOTT FUND	7015	902.96	(70.80)	42.70	874.86	
T-10 DR ROBERT DAVIS FUND	7016	2,907.00	(168.49)	113.24	2,851.75	
T-20 FRANK HAYWARD FUND	7017	9,801.73	(175.15)	295.17	9,921.75	
T-03 GEORGE AMES FUND	7018	558.95	(89.55)	31.25	500.65	
T-19 GEORGIA WHITNEY FUND	7019	1,601.95	(113.10)	93.44	1,582.29	
T-15 ROBBINS & AMES FUND	7020	84,584.14	(3,155.77)	3,029.94	84,458.31	
T-14 CAPTAIN ROBBINS FUND	7021	17,577.62	(327.66)	548.87		17,798.83
T-13 ROBBINS WOODLAND FUND	7022	2,781.71	(188.69)	127.16		2,720.18
T-34 JENKS FAMILY FUND	7023	125,030.77	(12,391.90)	7,968.25		120,607.12
T-12 ELDRIDGE ROBBIND FUND	7024	2,136.93	(136.65)	91.58		2,091.86
T-11 MARTHA DESMOND FUND	7025	6,519.53	(473.01)	278.15		6,324.67
T-05 NEW PERPETUAL CARE	7026	22,155.76	(27,767.52)	70,599.20	(44,960.00)	20,027.44
T-25 RAYMOND MONUMENT FD	7027	13,581.11	(88.55)	380.25		13,872.81
T-06 OLD PERPETUAL CARE	7028	178,483.15	(18,709.55)	10,741.69		170,515.29
T-04 ARLETTE APPLEYARD FUND	7029	5,353.08	(247.30)	211.32		5,317.10
T-26 RAYMOND CARE FUND	7030	4,833.88	(328.88)	203.28		4,708.28
T-35 MARY SMITH FUND	7031	2,471.17	(219.81)	133.97		2,385.33
T-27 HOSMER FUND	7032	143,471.18	(10,923.49)	7,290.05		139,837.74
T-29 WETHERBEE FUND	7033	125,863.04	(1,174.03)	3,633.27		128,322.28
T-36 ERNEST JONES FUND	7034	1,902.27	(58.02)	82.30		1,926.55
T-24 BLANCHARD FUND	7035	7,085.85	(331.29)	269.18	7,023.74	
T-07 AB CONANT FAMILY FD	7036	2,428.99	(199.89)	102.41	2,331.51	
T-23 FRANK KNOWLTON FUND	7037	1,768.93	(134.37)	82.92	1,717.48	
T-22 MRS ONEIL FUND	7038	1,587.39	(62.67)	54.46	1,579.18	
T-33 WELLS FUND	7039	28,868.17	(283.46)	855.80	29,440.51	
PORTER JENKS TRUST FUND	7040	7,066.01	(3,070.15)	1,810.29	5,806.15	
TOTAL CEMETERY TRUST FUNDS		807,915.74	(81,197.10)	109,332.82	(44,960.00)	791,091.46

INCOME ACCOUNTS	ACCOUNT	BEG BAL 7/1/2008	EXPENDITURES	REVENUES	JOURNAL ENTRY	END BAL 6/30/2009
					TRF IN/OUT	
T-17 GEORGIA WHITNEY MEML	7013	19,206.01	(181.45)	959.45		19,984.01
T-01 HIGH SCHOOL FUND	7041	1,031.07	(25.92)	151.61		1,156.76
T-90 KATHERINE M. KINSLEY	7042	1,712.84	(58.29)	408.10	0.00	2,062.65
T-88 WILLIAM A WILD FUND	7043	2,670.50	(104.38)	373.45	0.00	2,939.57
T-78 SUSAN/LUTHER CONANT	7044	4,061.80	(28.21)	154.39		4,187.98
T-86 LUKE TUTTLE FUND	7045	1,647.43	(9.59)	49.20		1,687.04
T-84 NEWELL B TAINTER	7046	5,181.38	(487.59)	517.93		5,211.72
T-82 LIBRARY PLANTER FUND	7047	1,539.47	(13.32)	79.52		1,605.67
T-80 MILDRED P. MOORE	7048	2,013.10	(20.19)	116.64		2,109.55
T-70 MARK CLAPP FUND	7049	363.08	(7.97)	47.03		402.14
T-76 HIRAM J HAPGOOD FUND	7050	975.62	(5.94)	31.56		1,001.24
T-72 CHARLOTTE CONANT	7051	2,143.46	(17.53)	102.72		2,228.65
T-74 MINNIE DAVIS FUND	7052	388.14	(3.64)	21.04		405.54
FLORENCE GRANDINE FUND	7053	4,399.58	(929.69)	572.39		4,042.28
GEORGE J. KASHUA TRUST	7054	4,406.09	(22.54)	105.81		4,489.36
ACTON MEM'L LBY FUND ENDOW	7055	301,033.30	(1,552.27)	7,487.44		306,968.47
	-					
TOTAL LIBRARY & ED TRUST		352,772.87	(3,468.52)	11,178.28	0.00	360,482.63
TOTAL EXPENDABLE TRUST		1,634,493.81	(156,601.82)	136,346.27	(197,505.74)	1,416,732.52

HUMAN SERVICES

COMMISSION ON DISABILITIES

This past year the COD met its mission statement by:

“Advocating for the rights and interests of citizens with disabilities”:

- Working alongside the Memorial library to obtain more materials on the subject of disability
- Worked with Acton health Department on emergency evacuation and shelter plans, published “Emergency Preparedness for PWD”
- Investigated universal design for playgrounds with Acton Recreation Department.
- Worked with Acton Transportation Committee on transportation plans for Acton.

“Ensuring that Acton meets the laws regulations, bylaws and guidelines set down by Federal, state, and regional bodies pertaining to the rights of citizens with disabilities”

- Arranging for and monitoring of proper observance of HP parking during the November election and throughout the year.
- Opposing the original plans for the new platform the South Acton train station, that made the area inaccessible and participating in the planning of a more accessible alternative
- Investigating complaints of barriers in public buildings
- Weighing in on variance exceptions requested of the Architectural Access Board
- Training another COD member as a Community Access Monitor.(per the Mass. Office on Disability)

“Acting as a resource for education around the needs of people with disabilities.”

- Information table and “game” at Oktoberfest
- Researching the laws regarding service animals and informing involved businesses and rental properties
- Answering calls from individuals needing assistance and information around support for living with a disability. As always, the majority of these calls regard transportation

This year the Town voted to change our charter to allow for five members, two alternates, and a quorum of three.

COMMUNITY HOUSING CORPORATION

The Board of Selectmen in accordance with special legislation granted by Home Rule petition in 1996 appoints the Acton Community Housing Corporation (ACHC). ACHC's mission is to facilitate the creation of affordable housing opportunities with priority given to Acton residents and employees working in Acton.

Steinberg-Lalli Foundation and Lalli Terrace (40B)

Steve Steinberg, Trustee of the Steinberg-Lalli Foundation, continues to give generous support to the Town's affordable housing efforts. The Foundation is constructing a non-profit development on Massachusetts Ave. near Kelley's Corner. Lalli Terrace features three 2BR townhouse units to be sold to income eligible first time homebuyers and a renovated existing house on the property to be sold to a moderate-income household. All units will be deed restricted. ACHC provided funds to allow the Acton Housing Authority to purchase one of the townhouse units to use for their low-income rental program. The development will be occupied by February.

Marsh View and Richardson's Crossing (40B)

Developers Steve Marsh and Jim D'Agostine proposed developments at separate sites on Central Street. Each site will have four single-family 3BR homes with one unit in each to be sold to an income eligible first time homebuyer. The Zoning Board of Appeals hearings required for the Comprehensive Permit should be completed in February.

Parker St. (40B)

Developer Mark Starr has proposed a five-unit development on Parker St. that will include four single-family homes and the existing farmhouse. One of the new units will be designated for a returning disabled veteran and two would be affordable. ACHC and the Board of Selectmen approved the application for the MA Dept. of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) under the Local Initiative Program. State approval is pending.

Lillian Rd. (40B)

A proposed two to four unit development located off Lillian Rd. was brought back to the ACHC for reconsideration. It had originally been discussed in 2006 and then did not proceed forward. This application will be filed with MassHousing rather than the DHCD, so the Town has limited input on design and density. The procedure appears to be stalled at this time.

Madison Place (40B)

This eight-unit development on North Main St., originally approved in 2007, has languished due to the poor housing market but the first affordable unit was sold and occupied in 2009 and a second one is expected in 2010. These units are large 3-bedroom duplexes located in the North Acton Village district.

Towne Building Reuse

The plans to develop the Towne Building (Old High School Commons) into 15 units of low-income rental moved forward in 2009. The selected developer, Steve Joncas of Common Ground Development, has filed for state funding two times in 2009 and has commitments from the Affordable Housing Trust Fund and the Mass. Historic tax credit program. He is awaiting word from DHCD about the balance of funding needed. The ACHC and the Board of Selectmen have approved the use of \$300,000 from housing gift funds to help offset the construction costs.

The proposed project will be 100% affordable with income eligible residents restricted to 60% of the Area Median Income. There will be 15 rental units, three 1-bedroom, nine 2-bedroom and three 3-bedrooms. State Grants have become very competitive due to the current economy. The developer and the Town Manager have met with several area banks to explore their interest in the purchasing of Low Income Tax Credits, the primary funding source.

Resale of an existing deed restricted unit

ACHC assisted in the marketing and resale of an existing affordable single family home on Minuteman Road. This unit was the first affordable unit that ACHC facilitated in Acton, 16 years ago. A deserving family purchased the home with help from ACHC, providing price buy down and closing cost assistance.

Vacant existing deed restricted unit

The ACHC continues to monitor a vacant deed restricted property on Massachusetts Ave. that was threatened with foreclosure in 2007 but blocked by the Town. This continues to be unresolved. The Town will have the option eventually to take title to the house and resell it to income eligible buyer; find an income eligible buyer without taking title; or allow the property to be auctioned off by the bank to any buyer with the Town getting any excess profit. ACHC recommends pursuing the second option but only after a determination is made of what repairs are needed.

Faulkner Mill

The Selectmen approved a 20-unit development at 4 High St. in 2007. As a condition of approval for the sewer connection, one 2BR unit was sold to an income eligible household and counted toward the Town's 10% affordable

housing goal. An eligible Acton family purchased the unit with closing cost assistance from ACHC.

CPA requests for 2009

ACHC was granted \$50,000 by the Community Preservation Committee and Town Meeting to be added to the existing Community Housing Program Fund for "the acquisition, creation, preservation, and support of community housing in the Town of Acton."

This Program Fund is used to finance new affordable housing initiatives such as: the Condo Buy-Down program began in 2007; minor capital upgrades for existing deed restricted units as part of the resale process; to contract with a marketing agent to handle the resale of existing units to income eligible buyers; and to partner with the Acton Housing Authority to buy existing condo units for the AHA's low income rental program. A combination of CPA, AHA, and housing gift funds has been used to fund these acquisitions. ACHC has also developed a Down Payment and Closing Cost Assistance Program that has assisted 9 first time homebuyers to purchase a deed restricted unit.

Transitional housing needs

After meeting with the Town's Community Resources Coordinator to hear about the needs of Acton residents who have fallen on hard times, ACHC voted to donate a portion of its discretionary funds to a Town administered fund to be used for emergency housing needs. The initial donation from ACHC is \$5000.

Administration

An information mailing was sent to 40 owners of deed-restricted units reminding them of the restrictions on refinancing and reselling of their units.

ACHC is preparing to have all its files scanned into digital format for storage on the Town server.

ACHC members met with a local banker to learn about current mortgage rules and regulations and to better understand the hurdles faced by low and moderate-income buyers.

Affordable Unit count for 2009

The current total of subsidized housing units in Acton as of December 2009 is 518, of which 46 are affordable home ownership units and 299 are counted as affordable rentals. The rest of the units are either Acton Housing Authority units or state group homes. This represents 6.7% of the 7645 total housing units in the town as officially affordable.

ACHC has enjoyed resurgence in Membership this year with the addition of four new members: Bob Van Meter, Corrina Roman-Kreuze, Brent Reagor, and Jennifer Patenaude and the return of Dan Buckley. This infusion of new members has allowed long-term members Betty

and Kevin McManus to become associate members and a well deserved rest. The committee has a full complement of members and associate members.

We would like to thank the Board of Selectmen, Town Staff, and Town Counsel for their ongoing support of the ACHC. As Chairman, I would especially like to thank our very loyal and talented committee members. Without their dedication, there would be little progress made in the affordable housing effort

Full Members

Nancy Tavernier, Chair
Bob Van Meter, Vice Chair
Bernice Baran
Corrina Roman-Kreuze
Brent Reagor

Associate Members

Kevin McManus, Treasurer
Naomi McManus
Dan Buckley
Pam Shuttle
Jennifer Patenaude

COMMUNITY SERVICES COORDINATOR

The position of Community Services Coordinator was created to connect Acton Residents in need with local and State supported services. Since the position began in January 2009 120 Acton Residents sought out services. Out of these 120 Residents there were 218 face-to-face encounters with many residents requiring ongoing case management.

Residents seeking services include, but are not limited to the following: Food Stamp Applications, health insurance information, fuel assistance, utility bill assistance, transitional housing assistance, behavioral health referrals and general support. Information and referral via telephone was also an integral means of providing resources to individuals and families. Over 200 phone contacts were received for information and referral.

This year the Community Services Coordinator provided hands on crisis intervention to a family impacted by a house fire. In conjunction with the Red Cross, Salvation Army and Council on Aging, the family received support and resources to meet their basic needs. One of the major accomplishments for the Town of Acton and this position is the creation of its SERVE Program to assist residents in need. SERVE is an acronym that stands for Serving

Residents through Voluntary Efforts. It was created with help from the Community Services Steering Committee that includes representatives from Fire, Police, Town Manager, Nursing, Board of Health, Human Resources, Council on Aging and the United Way. The program assists residents with emergency grocery and gasoline gift cards.

With local resources diminishing, SERVE was created to fill the need for emergency assistance and implement a safety net within the Town. As it exists, Town Employees voluntarily choose to donate an amount from their paycheck. To date Town Employees contribute \$5,200 annually to this fund! This winter, SERVE outreach efforts were extended to the general public. The SERVE Program received \$9,100 in private donations to assist in the areas of Domestic Violence, Food Assistance, Fuel Assistance, Transitional Housing and Home Heating Oil Assistance.

With the generosity of individuals, churches and local banks forty Acton Families were provided with Holiday Assistance in the form of gift cards and toys. Toys donated to Toys for Tots were also brought back into the community to assist families in need for the first time.

Community Members and Town Departments continue to provide ongoing support to this position. Sincere thanks and appreciation are extended to the following Board of Selectmen, Nursing, Police, Fire, Board of Health, Human Resources, Council on Aging, Acton Community Housing Corporation and the Town Manager for their ongoing support and dedication to this position.

Laura Ducharme,
Community Services Coordinator

COUNCIL ON AGING

The Acton Council on Aging is the town department providing programs and services to Acton residents 60 years old and over, as well as their families. The Council on Aging staff is a resource to residents of any age with concerns about older relatives, neighbors and friends.

The Acton Senior Center, located on 50 Audubon Drive in South Acton, opened in 1994. The challenge for adequate program and consultation space has increased in recent years due to the growth of Acton's senior population, now over 3,500, and the range of programs which seniors request and enjoy.

A committee established by the Board of Selectmen and chaired by Paulina Knibbe met for several months in 2008 and 2009 to gather information and assess options relevant to future expansion possibilities, including at the existing site. The committee recommendation at the end of

the study was to build a new senior center on town owned land next to NARA that would have the possibility of shared space for broader recreational use as well as defined space for senior center offices and programs. However, because of the current economic downturn, the unanimous recommendation was to put the request for any expansion plan on hold. The April 2009 Town Meeting did approve funds for renovations at the existing center in recognition of the need for new flooring and some other safety issues such as inserting windows in interior doors. A new living room floor was installed in August 2009, which provides a much-improved surface for daily exercise classes. The senior computer lab was moved to a corner of the dining room, separated by partition, to enable better accessibility to the computers for senior use as well as the creation of a separate consultation/ meeting room in the staff office area. Future projects will be explored, as approved funds are available.

Full and part time Council on Aging staff include Jean Fleming, Director; Carol Steiner; Outreach and Volunteer Coordinator; Judy Peters, Van Dispatcher and Administrative Assistant; Chris Chirokas, Program Coordinator; Mary Lou Repucci, Staff Assistant; and Terri Zaborowski, exercise instructor. Ron Paskavitz and Priscilla Cotter are our two regular van drivers, with Steve Ryan the primary substitute driver. Joy Agule is the Minuteman Senior Services meal site manager.

The COA budget is funded primarily by the Town of Acton. An annual grant from the State Executive Office of Elder Affairs funds limited additional staffing hours, volunteer recognition and some special projects. The Friends of the Council on Aging fund numerous classes, programs, special events and day trips. Their active fundraising and strong support enable almost all Senior Center programs to be offered free of charge to Acton senior citizens.

Keeping physically and mentally active is a priority for senior citizens, who continue to show great enthusiasm for our morning exercise classes. "Stretch and Flex" and two levels of aerobics classes are very popular, often with waiting lists. Tai Chi classes were added this year because of the known benefit helping seniors improve and maintain good balance. As of September 2009, both a Beginners and an Intermediate level of Tai Chi classes have been available and are well attended. Chair massage is offered twice a month and the Striders Walking group is seen around town in good weather.

Programs and activities offered to "stimulate the brain," included computer workshops, bridge lessons, card and board games, genealogy, book discussion groups and a series on British Romantic Poetry. These all provide settings for people to socialize while keeping their brains active. Programs on Presidential Elections, works of Mark

Twain, Great Broadway Stars and Principles of Islam drew new participants to the center. Music appreciation programs continue to be popular, including Opera and the Big Bands. Live music presentations included a special Veterans Day concert by the Air Force Band of Liberty, jazz trio, holiday piano concert and a guitar/violin duet at our Holiday Tea. Art classes in Watercolor, Drawing and One Stroke Painting provide opportunities for creative expression as well as jewelry workshops and weekly knitting, crocheting and quilting groups. Many hand knit and crocheted items have been donated to area shelters and nursing facilities. An Art Appreciation series focused on Post Impressionism brought rave reviews. Ongoing Senior Art exhibits enhance the living room space as program participants and visitors appreciate the breadth of local senior artistic talent.

Financial, legal and health programs provide up to date information for seniors coping with the varied challenges of growing older. Educational programs included learning about on-line banking and digital TV conversion, fire prevention and energy efficiency in your homes, "Clutter Control" and downsizing, Real Estate tax assistance and updates from the Better Business Bureau. Health and wellness programs focused on fall prevention, diabetes management, Hospice care, low vision, reading product labels for nutritional content, vitamins and minerals, Medicare options, medication management and, of course, updates on the seasonal and H1N1 flu vaccinations. Bi-weekly "Wellness Clinics" staffed by Acton Public Health Nursing Service provided individual attention to senior residents coming for blood pressure checks or with questions about new medications, and health concerns. Friends of the Acton Nursing Service provide monthly podiatry clinics.

COA day trips we enjoyed were to the Boston Symphony rehearsal, Museum of Russian Icons, Moakley Federal Courthouse, the Pilgrim Hall Museum in Plymouth, a Lowell Spinners baseball game, Newburyport, New Hampshire Covered Bridges, Smith College Art and Flower Show and locally, to Walden Pond.

The Minuteman meal site hosts weekday lunches and provides home delivered meals. The monthly COA breakfast provides opportunities for other town departments, legislators and local organizations to update us on senior issues while enjoying pancakes and conversation. Indian luncheons combined with cultural programs, ice cream socials, special luncheons provided by area senior residences and town employees, cooking demonstrations by our meal site manager all offered opportunities for gathering with neighbors and friends while enjoying good nutrition. After lunch, seniors enjoy pool, ping-pong, card games and surfing the Net in the senior computer lab. Weekly movies, documentaries and occasional Red Sox games are viewed on the large screen plasma TV. Wii video games are available.

The Acton SHINE (Serving Health Information Needs of Elders) provides health insurance counseling and workshop volunteers, supervised by Minuteman Senior Services. The COA Outreach Coordinator provides resource information in areas of housing, legal and financial assistance, adult day care, home-health services, residential care facilities, with specialized resources for Alzheimer's care. Long distance caregivers also communicate with us via phone calls and e-mail. Residents receive help preparing fuel assistance applications as well as accessing other state and local fuel assistance programs. We work closely with Laura Ducharme, the new Community Services Coordinator for the Town, to ensure that all age groups are able to access available services. Within the town's "Senior Work Program" several seniors earn up to \$750 each fiscal year in this program designed to provide assistance with real estate taxes, working in the Senior Center as well as in other Town Departments.

The Friendly Visitor program provides companionship to isolated seniors and an opportunity to socialize at Senior Center events. The RUOK phone check in program is coordinated with the Acton Police Department. The Handyman program meets the requests of seniors for minor home repairs. Our Durable Medical Equipment Loan program is greatly appreciated by the community, as we recycle used equipment in very good condition from those who no longer need it to those who have a temporary or permanent need.

The LRTA (Lowell Regional Transit Authority) vans with wheelchair accessibility transport seniors and disabled adults within the towns of Acton, Concord and Maynard. The Council on Aging staffs and schedules one van and the Road Runner administers the other. The COA Van runs every weekday 8:00 - 4:00 and demand for transportation continues to grow. The Road Runner Van will increase service to five days a week as of January 2010. Fares are \$1.00 each way within Acton, and \$1.50 each way out of town.

Information about all programs, classes and services is detailed in the Acton Senior Bulletin, a newsletter distributed nine times a year to senior citizens. We are pleased that almost 300 senior households now receive their newsletter by e-mail or pick up at the senior center while they're here, cutting down on printing and postage requirements.

We greatly appreciate our versatile, talented and hard working corps of volunteers.

The COA Board advocates for seniors and played a major role within the Senior Center Expansion Feasibility Committee. The Friends of the COA fund most COA classes and programs, subsidize day trips, administer the

Emergency Fuel Assistance Fund and mail the "File of Life" to each senior's home. They receive support from the senior community, area businesses and the United Way. The Friends sponsored a most successful Holiday craft fair and quilt/ afghan raffle in the fall.

Volunteers deliver meals to homebound seniors each weekday, help serve special luncheons, teach classes, do minor home repairs, prepare the monthly special breakfast, and create quilts, laps robes, hats and mittens to donate to those in need. They provide tax assistance, legal counseling, prepare the newsletter for mailing, answer office phones and organize our library and video bookshelves. Friendly Visitors provide welcome companionship to isolated seniors. All these volunteers are honored at our spring Volunteer Recognition event.

The Acton Lions Club and Acton-Boxboro Rotary Club provide seasonal dinner events for over 100 seniors; the latter was held at the Holiday Inn in Boxborough this year. Theater III provides free dress rehearsals. High school students deliver buckets of "safety sand" to seniors' homes and rake lawns in the fall. The Salvation Army, Community Supper and the Friends of the Acton COA assist seniors in need. The Acton Women's Club, school groups, area church groups and private citizens donate gifts at the holidays.

THANK YOU to all who have volunteered their time, energy and skills to enhance the well being of Acton's senior citizens.

Jean Fleming, Director

COA Board:

Barbara Tallone, Chair

Charles Aaronson

Stephen Baran

Gena Manalan

Pat Ellis

Sally Thompson

Paul Turner

Barbara Willson

Jim Papachristo

Dan Silva, Liaison from Police Dept.

Mike Gowing, Liaison from Board of Selectmen

HOUSING AUTHORITY

In 1980, the Acton Housing Authority (AHA) welcomed its first residents at Windsor Green, a sixty-eight unit affordable housing complex for elderly and disabled residents of Acton. The Housing Authority has continued to meet its commitment in providing affordable rental housing to Acton residents over the past three decades, adding to the inventory by building and buying new units. Today, the AHA owns 91 units of elderly/handicapped housing, 42 units of family housing, and a 12 unit group home, and 145 units of affordable rental housing. The AHA also manages 170 rental subsidies. These rental subsidies are used to assist low-income individuals and families rent housing in the private market. The AHA gives preference to local residents who are on our waiting list. Currently, 164 local residents are on the waiting list.

The Town of Acton has provided support to the AHA over the past few years with Community Preservation Act Funds (CPA). The AHA is using CPA funds to begin the process of developing new affordable rental units for families on Sachem Way. The AHA created a Local Screening Committee to assist with the interviewing and selection of an architect for this project. The Local Screening Committee consisted of an abutter, Sachem Way resident, local architect, a local Real Estate broker, a local artist and the AHA Director. On the recommendation of the Local Screening Committee, the AHA hired Baker/Wohl Architects. The AHA has invited residents, neighbors and Town Committees to work with our architects to assist in the designing of these new units.

The AHA has also received CPA resources to make capital improvements to the existing inventory. This year some of the capital improvements made with CPA funds included replacing roofs, boilers, doors, windows, driveways, retaining walls and walkways at units throughout Acton. The AHA will continue to make capital improvements, which will help preserve these valuable affordable housing resources while also making these properties more energy efficient and sustainable. The Housing Authority Board, staff and residents are very thankful for the ongoing support and generosity of the people who live and work in Acton.

The AHA was established in 1970 and has a five person Board of Commissioners; four are elected and the Governor appoints one. The Board is responsible for setting policy and for budget oversight.

Board of Commissioners
Robert Whittlesey, Chair
Dennis Sullivan, Vice-Chair
Bernice Baran, Treasurer
Ken Sghia-Hughes, Assistant Treasurer
Nancy Kolb, Secretary
Kelley Cronin, Executive Director

PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING SERVICE

The Acton Public Health Nursing Service, a division of the Health Department, has provided services to the Town of Acton since 1923. We are proud to carry on the tradition of providing skilled, caring services to Acton residents.

The Nursing Service faced additional challenges this year with the impact of the H1N1 Pandemic and the increasing demand for free care due to the economic down turn.

The increased workload to respond to the H1N1 Pandemic prompted a need to access additional temporary staff to assist at clinics. It also provided an opportunity to collaborate with the school administration, particularly the school nurses, the health department and the MRC (Medical Reserve Corps). This collaboration with these organizations enabled us to provide over 4000 H1N1 injections during November and December. The focus early in the campaign was on those at high risk, primarily children under 18 years of age. Scheduling clinics at times and sites most convenient to parents facilitated the large response. These included late afternoon/early evening clinics at day care centers, schools and at group homes in the area. Due to increased availability of H1N1 vaccine, we were able to open the clinics to all Acton residents.

This public health response to the H1N1 Pandemic created a 400% increase in PH Nursing hours provided to Acton, at no cost to Acton. The value of these services would amount to over \$40,000 if billed to the town. Our continued relationship with the Town of Stow in providing public health services also allowed for close collaboration during the pandemic and provided additional revenue to APHNS.

The downturn in the economy has increased the demand for free care. With increased unemployment, the number of people without employer-sponsored health insur-

ance has increased. While the state requires everyone to carry health insurance, many of the insurance providers cover little or no home health care. This leaves patients with nowhere to turn when discharged from the hospital and in need of skilled care. APHNS supplied over \$3000 in free care in 2009. We see this as an ongoing issue until the economy shows significant improvement. As the mission of Acton Public Health Nursing Service is to provide for the home care and public health nursing needs of the citizens of Acton, we do not turn any Acton resident away in need of services.

We continue to provide walk-in services at our office on the 2nd floor of Town Hall for adult and childhood vaccinations and blood pressure checks. We encourage people to call before coming to assure availability of a nurse.

Acton Public Health Nursing Service continues to provide home health care, including skilled nursing; physical, occupational and speech therapy; medical social services and home health aide assistance. Through our new affiliation with the Visiting Nurse Association's of New England, we are able to contract and care for patients with most insurances. We have seen a significant shift away from traditional fee for service Medicare to HMO's, particularly the Medicare Advantage policies. These require additional time to obtain prior approvals and meet different documentation/billing expectations, placing additional burdens on the staff, while often providing a lower reimbursement rate for the services provided.

Volunteers and other town departments continue to provide substantial assistance to the Nursing Service. The Friends of Acton Nursing Service (FANS) provides ongoing financial and volunteer support. The Professional Advisory Committee, composed of several health professionals residing in Acton, provide professional guidance by reviewing policies and procedures. We also work closely with the Council on Aging to provide services to the senior citizens.

The Acton Public Health Nursing Service is alive and well and looks forward to another 75 years, serving the Town of Acton!

Merrily Evdokimoff, RN, PhD(c),
Administrator

Public Health Nursing Service Statistics FY2009

Home Visits

Registered Nurse	1652
Home Health Aide	2431
Physical Therapy	1257
Occupational Therapy	91
Speech Therapy	14
Medical Social Work	1
Total Home Visits	5446

Health Promotion Activities

TB Testing	14
Blood Pressure Checks	720
Podiatry Clinic	420
Influenza Vaccinations	1385
H1N1 Vaccinations	4000
Other Vaccinations	140

Communicable Disease Follow-up

Confirmed Cases

Campylobacter	6
Cryptosporidiosis	2
Giardia	10
Group B Streptococcus	2
Hepatitis C (chronic)	1
Influenza	14
Lyme Disease	93
Meningococcal Disease	1
Pertussis	2
Salmonellosis	5
TB (active)	1
TB (latent)	3
Vibrio	1

Public Health Nursing Hours:

Acton (N/C to Town)	799
Stow (Billable)	185

Nursing Staff:
Merrily Evdokimoff, Administrator
Heather Hurley, Clinical Manager
Beverly Hutchings, Admin Assist
Sharon Faldas, Secretary
Kathy Flannery RN
Elaine Gardner, RN
Brooke James, RN
Sara Dodd, RN
Jean Hetherington, PT
Nancy Powell, PT
Julie Hailey, PT
Lila Shayan, OT
Laura Thibodeau, OT
Donna Balicki, CHHA
Maria Franca, CHHA
Denise Whitney, CHHA
Sharon Goller, CHHA
Laura Ducharme, SW

SEALER OF WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

The Sealer of Weights and Measures annually checks the accuracy of all weighing and measuring devices used by all retail and wholesale businesses in the conduct of their trade. This includes scales, gasoline and oil pumps, scanners, reverse vending machines, yard goods and measuring devices as well as investigating complaints in the sale of cordwood.

Number of Devices Sealed

Scales	122
Gasoline Pumps	205
Bulk Storage	3
Scanner Inspections	33
Reverse Vending	19
Scales not Sealed	2
Scales Condemned	1
Scales adjusted	4
Pumps not Sealed	3
Pumps adjusted	4

Mark FitzPatrick
Sealer of Weights and Measures

VETERANS' GRAVES

NAME	AGE	DATE OF DEATH
BRANCH OF SERVICE, CONFLICT		CEMETERY
Boone, John F	84	2/27/1997
Army, WWII		Woodlawn
Costello, Daniel J Sr.	78	10/15/2008
Army, Peace time		Woodlawn
Craig, C Ernest	85	7/28/2009
Army, WWII		Mt. Hope
Doherty, Francis Winn	88	8/30/2009
Air Force, WWII, Korea, Vietnam		Woodlawn
Duggan, Edward M	68	9/3/2009
Navy, Vietnam		Woodlawn
Durben, James Michael	83	2/13/2009
Navy, WWII		Woodlawn
Ellice, Gleason H	92	3/24/2009
Army, WWII		Woodlawn
Garmon, Stanley P	75	5/21/2009
Navy, Korea		Woodlawn
Gerhardt, Leslie H	81	1/31/2009
Navy, WWII		Woodlawn
Harriman, Frederick L Jr.	81	7/18/2009
Navy, WWII		Mt. Hope
Melymuka, William	89	5/4/2009
Army, WWII		Woodlawn
Mickunas, Jouzas Jr.	77	8/9/2009
Army, Korea		Woodlawn
Miller, Charles Edward Jr.	81	9/11/2009
Navy, WWII		Woodlawn
O'Donnell, Joseph F	85	7/14/2009
Marine, WWII		Woodlawn
O'Neal, Charles DeWitt	85	10/3/2009
Navy, WWII		Woodlawn
Sweeney, Robert E	76	8/7/2009
Navy, Korea		Mt. Hope
Walker, Harrison	89	11/20/2009
Coast Guard, WWII		Woodlawn
Wilkes, George A Jr.	71	2/7/2009
Army, Peace Time		Woodlawn

VOUNTEER COORDINATING COMMITTEE

The Volunteer Coordinating Committee (VCC) works under the direction of the Board of Selectmen. It accepts applications to volunteer, interviews applicants and tracks all committee positions that are under the jurisdiction of the Board of Selection.

Acton is fortunate to have many well qualified , energetic people serving on boards and committees. Finding a good 'fit' is important for the town and the applicant, and all levels of interest are considered.

In the past calendar year there have been over 30 interviews, and 28 placed volunteers. There are over 180 people on various committees and we are very grateful to all of them.

We appreciate and encourage your interest in volunteering. Thank you.

Applications are available on the Town of Acton web site, or at the Town Clerk's office.

Bonnie Geithner, Chair
Charlie Aaronson
Nancy Gerhardt
Jean Lane
Jean Schoch
Efi Papadopoulos



Volunteer Recognition Day at Acton Memorial Library.

ACTON AND ACTON-BOXBOROUGH SCHOOLS

Curriculum and Instruction

Introduction

The 2008-2009 school year once again witnessed a myriad of activities that added to the learning experiences of our students. As an educational community committed to excellence in all our endeavors, the Acton Public Schools and Acton-Boxborough Regional Schools continued to develop, research, and further enhance our curricular and instructional skills and course offerings. With a culture that believes in supporting all learners, we are proud of our accomplishments over the past year and anticipate that even greater successes lie ahead.

Enrollment

The Acton Public School enrollment, calculated on October 1, 2009 decreased by 39 students, from 2,598 to 2,559. Of the total number, 25 were special education students attending "out-of-district" schools – a decrease of two students from the previous October 1. Kindergarten enrollment increased by 10 students, from 294 to 304. There were no school choice students at the elementary level, although fifteen were children of out-of-town staff members.

Junior high school enrollment, calculated on October 1, 2009 increased by 31 students, from 986 to 1,017. Of this number, two were children of out-of-town staff members, and fourteen were special education students attending out-of-district schools. There were no school choice students.

The high school enrollment decreased from 2,010 to 2,005. There were 66 school choice students at the high school – a decrease of five students from the previous year. Of the total number enrolled, 46 were special education students attending out-of-district schools.

Personnel

Staffing changes were affected by the June 2008 retirement of three Acton Public and seven Acton-Boxborough Regional teachers. Leaves of absence for six ABRSD teachers and twelve APS teachers were granted, and eight APS and six AB resignations were received. The 16.3 ABRSD and twelve APS full-time equivalent new teachers who were hired filled these vacancies and additional openings.

Reflecting on what has been accomplished over the past year one is constantly reminded that the Acton and Acton-Boxborough schools are committed to providing all students with academic and problem-solving skills essential for personal development, responsible citizenship, and life-long learning. This year was no exception, filled with opportunities and challenges in the areas of curriculum, instruction, and assessment. Curriculum is considered to be "what we teach children." Instruction is "how we teach children." Assessment is "how we measure what children learn." Curriculum is at the core of each and every activity that takes place within the school purview, and since it is the what, the why, and the how of all actions and interactions, the learning expands at an ever-increasing rate. Therefore, our curriculum continually challenges students to think critically about information in order to solve problems in our ever-changing society. It must also challenge our students to use information creatively to enhance and enrich all of our lives.

Our schools are focused on a culture of achievement in which all learners can attain success. All our resources focus on actualizing this belief. Students learn continuously and are surrounded by others – teachers, administrators, and other adults – who are also continuously engaged in the process of learning. Creating a community of learners requires a dedication to continuous improvement on the part of all students, staff, and parents. Our major purpose is to maximize the performance of all student learners and to maximize the accountability and delivery of support systems for access and equity for all.

This year, we began a cycle of continuous improvement to review curriculum in a systematic way, K-12, while providing professional development specifically designed to create a community of learners dedicated to assuring that all of our instructional programs are responsive to the needs of all our students.

Throughout the year, I have had the privilege of meeting with curriculum leaders, teachers, students, parents and many other groups and committees who represent the academic and culture of our curriculum and who understand that, in order to be effective, we must continually reflect upon our practices and the world in which we live.

We take pride in the range and depth of our educational program, its commitment to ongoing curriculum renewal, and efforts to ensure that the instructional programs are responsive to the needs and interests of all

our children. We will continue to offer strong academic programs with opportunities for exposure to a wide range of experiences. Curriculum is an ongoing process. It is the roadmap that guides the delivery of instruction and assessment. Curriculum needs to undergo periodic review to respond to the varied and changing needs of students to meet the standards. Therefore, we will review the curricular objectives and align those objectives with state and other learning standards to ensure that all students are benefiting from articulated curricula.

The following affords me the opportunity to share with you a snapshot of the incredible work that happened this year in our districts and to acknowledge and celebrate all that we do for the children of Acton and Acton/Boxborough – both in our classrooms and beyond the walls of the schools.

The elementary schools . . .

Purchased model wind turbines and energy education materials with grant funds available through the Mass Technology Collaborative to support the revision of the Energy Resources unit in the fifth grades at all five elementary schools.

Completed work on the Acton Long Ago Project with the Acton Historical Society, resulting in a web site highlighting local historical documents.

Implemented the revised district-wide Wellness Policy.

Piloted a mathematics assessment strategy in first-grade classes.

Continued to implement the Six Traits of Writing.

Science . . .

At the junior high, teachers:

Incorporated Global Warming into the existing curriculum.

Piloted a new Holt chemistry text.

At the high school:

In our effort to continue to offer students the opportunity to pursue their interests in science, the department introduced two new courses: Engineering Principles and Oceanography. Both were popular and well attended single semester courses. The current plan is to offer these courses every other year opposite other existing electives.

AP Biology teacher Brian Dempsey was one of 34 teachers in the US, Canada and Puerto Rico to receive an Amgen Award for Science Teaching Excellence. Brian was recognized for his "significant impact on the learning and interest of the future generation of scientists."

AB continued its tradition of excellence in academic performance in the sciences: The Science Team placed third in the 2009 Massachusetts Science Olympiad.

A total of 194 students took AP exams with average scores of 4.8 in Biology, 4.7 in Chemistry, 4.4 in Environmental Science, and 4.2 in Physics.

World Languages . . .

At the junior high:

We have continued to integrate technology into the WL classroom through cultural, vocabulary, and grammatical presentations and activities. On-line activities were created for student use at home.

An assessment of comparable schools' Mandarin programs was conducted through site visits and interviews. Mandarin textbooks were reviewed, and a preliminary curriculum was developed.

At the high school:

40 students of Spanish were inducted into the National Spanish Honor Society.

10 students of Latin were inducted into the National Latin Honor Society

24 students of French were inducted in the National French Honor Society

40 students received World Language Department superlative categories for their language achievement; all students received prizes.

Six students were honored with awards for the highest achievement in the highest level of their language.

Mathematics . . .

At the junior high

Probability and Counting Methods was added to the 7th-grade curriculum.

7th grade began the year leveled into mathematics classes; the transition was very successful.

At the high school, staff:

Revised and clarified the process by which capable students in grade 8 STD Math can prepare in Summer School to enter Algebra I AE in grade 9.

Clarified the Program of Studies and override process.

Identified the need for a non-AP Calculus course for students who are accelerated but who aren't strong enough or interested enough in an AP course.

English Language Arts . . .

At the junior high:

7th-grade ELA teachers visited the 6th grades at all of the elementary schools and 8th-grade teachers visited the 9th-grade ELA classes at the high school to foster inter-district sharing and collaboration about writing.

A 7th-grade mystery unit and an 8th-grade environmental unit were created as part of summer curriculum R&Ds.

Staff continued implementation of the six traits of effective writing.

At the high school:

The growth of American Studies has been extraordinary! We now have five sections of the interdisciplinary course and two teaching teams.

Collaboration on curriculum continued between 8th- and 9th- grade English teachers, including a shared R&D during the summer of 2008.

The ABRHS Guide to Research and Writing was revised, based on the new MLA guide.

Social Studies/History . . .

At the junior high:

Theater Espresso, an educational interactive theater group, came to our school last spring for two wonderful performances. The eighth-grade performance was about the Little Rock Nine, and the seventh-grade performance was about the Japanese Internment Camps. Grades 7 and 8 found meaningful ways to integrate these topics into the curriculum, both emphasizing the importance of active citizenship and involvement.

Grade 8 continued to work on finding new primary source materials and creating new activities that enrich the new unit on India.

Grade 7 created/revised new projects and activities to include some local geography and American geography in the first unit. Grade 7 also created a new improvisational activity about Native Americans.

At the high school, teachers:

Continued to monitor the introduction of a US History MCAS.

Continued to revise the World History curriculum to include materials on Russia and to revise materials previously in the Silk Road unit to reflect other changes in the eighth-grade curriculum.

Implemented the recommendations of the summer R&D for American Studies to create more spaces in the curriculum for shared instruction and assessments.

Updated and revised the ABRHS Guide to Writing and Research.

Continued to provide professional development to deepen understanding of the curriculum through book groups.



Band Camp

Physical Education and Health . . .

At the elementary schools, staff:

Developed grade 4 health/literature book bags to support the teaching of the health curriculum.

Integrated social studies, weather, and language arts into the curriculum.

At the junior high, staff:

Updated the technology capabilities to accommodate the new curriculum.

Incorporated Life Skills student videos into Grey Block news programs.

At the high school, staff:

Administered the High Five Program and Physical Education Field Trip.

Held a successful Health and Physical Education Awareness Day.

Library/Media . . .

The elementary schools:

Summarized the results of an APS Library survey.

The junior high and high school:

Evaluated the districts' library programs, resulting in a long-range plan.

Continued to expand the District Curriculum Library and to make the resources available to staff.

Performing Arts, Visual Arts, Instructional Technology, and Information Technology

See the sections that address each of these topics in greater depth.

District-wide Initiatives, K-12

Professional Development

Numerous book groups were held to discuss research in teaching and learning, content, and pedagogy.



Juniors who represented ABRHS at Harvard Model Congress in February 2009 included: (from left) Jeremy Bloomstone, Nishi Mehta, Chris Altieri, Maddy Benjamin, Josh Kelly, Mark Soo and Zuzana Giertlova.

A series of mathematics and science content workshops were held for teachers, K-6.

Two follow-up 6 Traits workshops for teachers K-12 were held in the fall to focus on grade level literature and lessons.

A Professional Development Lending Library was enriched and expanded upon to add more books, videos, and DVDs about relevant school-based and district-wide curricular and pedagogical endeavors.

A Global Awareness committee was formed to develop a mission and action plan to help focus work in the coming years. It defined Global Awareness as a process that leads to understanding of a rapidly transforming world. We want our students to become compassionate, effective, and knowledgeable citizens who will fully participate in a global society. In order to do this, our students must develop cross-cultural understandings, realize the impact of global and regional resources, and recognize the interconnections of local and global decisions. In our schools we recognize the need to respond to the changing society in which we live, as well as prepare our students for a society which is still evolving. Moreover, we must acknowledge that role as the very essence of curriculum development, leading the evolution of schooling in line with the changing society and emphasizing the key role that curriculum development plays in education.

Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment (CIA) Committee meetings were held in all curricular areas to review and update action plans, share MCAS reports and conclusions, finalize plans for the November Professional Development Day, and complete the first year of the Visual Arts curriculum.

Wellness

During the spring, the school committee approved the Wellness Policy, which includes four categories: Nutrition Education, Nutrition Standards, Physical Activity, and Other Events. Each school has planned the implementation of this policy.

The following represents a sampling of the activities that took place this year.

A forum was held to share the Youth Risk Behavior Survey results.

7th Annual Project Wellness: a 7th-grade conference for parents and students on a variety of wellness issues was held in March at Merrimack College.

Parent Involvement Project (PIP) Programs

The Acton PIP continued to offer high-quality science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) learning experiences for Acton Families. An Acton PIP event is curriculum-centered and “hands-on.” A major PIP event held this year was the 4th-grade Star Party, which extends the fourth grade unit of astronomy and provides students the opportunity to view the night sky through professional telescopes. Other PIP events included 3rd and 5th Grade Market Math at Roche Brothers and Family Domino Night.

The Discovery Museums

It's wonderful to have (a bit of) the Discovery Museums right here on our campus! They use the remodeled space at the Administrative Building as a distribution center for the Museums' Traveling Science Workshop Program. The Discovery Museums support classroom teachers in the instruction of STEM education and future collaborative professional opportunities for our staff. Each of our five elementary schools has taken advantage of the Museums' Traveling Science Workshop Program to enhance students' learning of science concepts. We continue to work with the Discovery Museums. The Pine Hawk Committee provides opportunities for teachers to use resources to teach social studies and science.

School Business Partnership Programs

The following represents a sampling of activities:

Our Business Partnership Project continued to support grades 3 and 5 to enhance the teaching and learning of “Electricity” and “Simple Engineering.”

The Acton Water Department and the Health Department continue to support and enrich our science and social studies units with classroom visits and field trips.

At the 6th grade, a new business partnership was formed with Middlesex Bank. It is a similar program to the Worker's Credit Union, which helps support the teaching of mathematics.

Job Shadowing – high school students visited many business sites.

Career Speakers - Approximately 270 high school students listened to speakers who shared information about a typical day and the job requirements for their career path.

Senior Internship - A “hands-on” experience with an interesting career field continues to be a success.

We continue to expand our School-Business Partnerships Programs. Please visit our website at <http://ab.mec.edu/business/partners.shtml> for more information.

It's all about learning...

That statement defines and drives everything we do in our schools. We are constantly striving to improve teaching and learning while doing the best for all our students. All students can achieve, provided they understand what is expected of them and are afforded a supportive learning environment.

As we reflect on this year, we reaffirm the concept of learning as an interactive process that transcends the mere transmission of information. This process is composed of three main elements that influence understanding: what the learner brings to the situation, the learning climate, and the characteristics of the context of the situation. In conjunction with learning, the requisite changes in curriculum, instruction, and assessment are part of a long-term process that is best nurtured over time and thrives best on encouragement.

"In today's world, it's no longer how much you know that matters;

it's what you can do with what you know."

----Tony Wagner

Susan Horn, Assistant Superintendent

Acton Public Schools

The five elementary schools – Conant, Douglas, Gates, McCarthy-Towne, and Merriam – have the following in common.

Each has a School Council, as required by the Educational Reform Act of 1993.

Vital parent involvement plays an active role in the life of each school. These parents sponsored numerous assembly programs that enriched their school's cultural and aesthetic life with musicians, storytellers, and other performers. They raised funds for school wide projects; provided volunteers for many in- and out-of-class activities, tasks, and services; staffed the "Safe Arrival" hotlines; and also sponsored school newsletters and other activities.

A number of whole-school events, such as orientation programs for kindergarten parents and children as the school year begins, back-to-school-night open houses in the fall, and a Memorial Day Program in the spring, take place.

Students use computers, technology, associated software, and the Internet in various ways: to supplement the writing/composing process, to enrich or extend learning experiences in each curricular area, to strengthen the learning of concepts and practice of skills via the Internet.



Advanced Placement Biology students visited a Harvard University research lab as part of a job shadowing program.

The faculty participates in professional development through one or more of these activities: pursuit of formal course work, involvement in system wide curriculum and instruction review and improvement projects, participation in the district wide Professional Development Day, and attendance at professional conferences and workshops. In addition, many teachers work with student teachers. Through their actions, every year the faculty shows that they are truly committed to the concept of being life-long learners.

Each school has a reception or event to celebrate and honor the parents and volunteers who assist them during the school year.

In September 2008, Gates School welcomed Lynne Newman as its new principal, and Nancy Kolb, former Director of Pupil Services, returned from retirement to spend a year as the Interim Principal at McCarthy-Towne.

Acton-Boxborough Regional Schools

R. J. Grey Junior High School

R. J. Grey began the 2008-2009 school year with 1002 students: 502 in the seventh grade and 500 in the eighth based on October 1 data. This was an increase of 38 students from the enrollment of October 1, 2007. As school began, the administrative team (Principal Craig Hardimon, Assistant Principal Allison Warren, and Assistant Principal Andrew Shen) welcomed new seventh graders and returning eighth graders to R. J. Grey.

To ensure a positive transition to the start of the school year for both 7th and 8th graders, an “Opening Days of School” Feedback Form was distributed on Parent’s Night. In this regard, survey results were overwhelmingly positive, with students feeling comfortable and supported. Parents felt included and well informed. It was an outstanding start to the school year.

Teaming is the fundamental core of RJG. The team model enables staff to create a strong web of support to enhance student success. A large school becomes a smaller school. With consistent communication among team teachers, issues are addressed early and students have an opportunity to develop close relationships with their teachers, as well as with a familiar peer group. Moreover, teaming is the ideal format through which we can deliver those programs and values we most believe in, as expressed in our Statement of Purpose: meeting the needs of the young adolescent, maintaining curricular quality and interdisciplinary opportunities, creating a sense of community, and promoting citizenship.

During the 2008-2009 school year, seventh- and eighth-grade students were distributed among four “full” teams. Each full seventh-grade team had approximately 108 students supported by five core academic teachers (English, Social Studies, Math, Science, and Spanish and/or French). In addition to the four full teams in seventh grade, R. J. Grey introduced a half team, which had approximately fifty students and three teachers (English/Social Studies, Math/Science, and World Language). The addition of the half team provided additional structure and supports for the district’s highly specialized and successful Connections program, reduced overall 7th-grade team sizes, enhanced communication between core curricular teachers, and increased home/school communication.

In grade eight, each team averaged 126 students and five core academic teachers (Math, Science, English, Social Studies, and Spanish and/or French). On an ongoing basis, teachers planned integrated curricular activities that helped students see the relationships between various subjects.

It is important to note that all teams provide the same level of academic rigor and social opportunities. Similar supports and resources are provided as well. Specifically, all students participate in English, Social Studies, Math, Science, and Physical Education/Health. The curriculum demonstrates the core values of reading (the English program is literature-based), writing (although skills are primarily taught in English classes, the other academic subjects have adopted the “Writing Across the Curriculum” approach, which provides students with a more consistent writing approach), math (with the added skill development of reading mathematical language), and our physical (Science) and cultural (Social Studies) world. Most of our students also take a world language, with twice as many taking Spanish as French. Seventh graders participate in an “exploratory program” that consists of Study Skills, Art, Music and Minuteman Technology Lab I, each of which meets every other day for half the year. Exploratory courses for the eighth graders include Art, Minuteman Technology Lab II, Life Skills/Health, Drama and Study Skills Technology; these classes last for one-fifth of the year. In addition to the core curriculum, students elect to participate in band, chorus or “grey block,” a combination of curriculum-related mini-courses and structured study halls with team teachers.

In October 2008, R. J. Grey (as well as the high school and elementary schools) received the results of the state-mandated MCAS (Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System) tests from the previous spring. We continue to be proud that our students’ scores compared favorably with the top-performing schools in the state. For Limited English Proficient (LEP) students and students with specific disabilities, we recognize that matriculating through

our schools sometimes requires more time to cover and achieve proficiency of grade-level concepts and skills. In this regard, we have analyzed MCAS results in collaboration with regular education, identified the sub-groups that need attention, noted the individual students who need instructional support, and met with department heads and teachers to create an instructional plan that meets the needs of these students. Using the new grade 7 mathematics text book, there has already been a positive result of a mathematics program that consistently uses the same strategies and terminology in instructional practices.

For many students, learning and connecting with members of the R. J. Grey community took place through our extracurricular programs. The interscholastic athletic program included teams in cross-country, soccer, field hockey, basketball, softball, track, and baseball. All participants on these teams paid an activity fee that helped to support these programs. The intramural program was available to all students, meeting either before or after school. These intramurals included basketball, lacrosse, and strength training. Other after-school activities included Adopt-a-Grandparent, Jazz Band, Speech and Debate Team, Chess/Board Games Club, Math Counts, and the Yearbook. The school musical, "Alice in Wonderland," involved over 150 students and 200 parents. We continued the tradition of the Rotunda Project, where each student created a small, self-representative piece of art. These individual drawings were then hung in the rotunda area on three-dimensional displays painted the color of each team.

In addition to our annual community service learning projects, such as the Coat Drive, Walk to the West Acton Food Pantry, and collecting for Toys for Tots, the Student Council and teams found new programs to support. Among these were: a day of maintenance work on parks and conservation lands; Project Tamaa, which raised money and awareness for a number of international causes; and the participation of the entire student body in a change drive for the Make A Wish Foundation. In addition, our annual used-coat drive earned praise from Anton's Cleaners for another outstanding year.

In continuing our commitment to the partnership between school and home, daily emails, monthly articles and "drop-in hours," and weekly communication from the principal promoted continuity and educational support to families. Additionally, RJG professional staff offered parent forums to parents and guardians on adolescent development, homework, school discipline, and stress management. These were extremely well received. Of particular note was the number of 6th-grade parents who attended these discussion forums as part of their children's transition to the junior high school. The School Council, consisting of four parents, one community person-at-large, two staff

members, and the principal, also addressed a wide variety of relevant issues and made recommendations to the administration that were very helpful. The School Council continued to have a strong voice in the development of the school and the overall school climate. An active P.T.S.O. organization (for families in grades seven through twelve) planned, organized, and assisted with many events at R. J. Grey. Parents/guardians were invited to attend monthly noontime informational meetings with both the RJG and ABRHS principals, who presented reports and answered questions. The P.T.S.O. also sponsored evening programs designed to provide information about the schools.

Another R. J. Grey highlight included our annual Project Wellness Day. Project Wellness is a daylong conference for 7th-grade students and a parent or guardian, designed to empower parents and teenagers in addressing the variety of issues faced by today's families and to develop, maintain or improve adult-teenager open communication. This event brought seventh-grade students and adult family members together at Merrimack College on March 17, 2009 to learn about ways to communicate with each other about difficult issues and sensitive topics, ranging from time management to nutrition to navigating relationships. Approximately 1,000 students, family members, and staff participated in this event.

Over the course of the school year, R. J. Grey staff continued with initiatives that promoted learning, mutual respect, and opportunities for professional growth. In response to parent, staff, and student feedback, professional development and training opportunities focused on addressing and responding to incidents of bullying, teasing, and harassment. For staff, Professional Day in November 2008 offered the faculty systemic interventions and strategies for promoting a safe school, as well as practical strategies for responding to incidents of bullying, teasing and harassment. For students, the counseling department facilitated and coordinated classroom-wide sessions in the seventh grade, promoting respect for oneself and others and becoming a more active bystander by responding to observed harassment and bullying behavior.

At the end of the 2008-2009 school year, two veteran staff members, Bob Specian and Judy Clark, retired after many years of service to our school. These professionals devoted decades to our school community and touched the lives of several hundred students and families. We thank them for their many years of leadership, support, and dedication to the students of R. J. Grey Junior High.

Acton-Boxborough Regional High School

Post Secondary Education: The ABRHS Class of 2009 had 480 students; of these, 92% enrolled at four-year schools, while 6% continued their education at two-year colleges, prep and technical schools.

Standardized Test Results: Average SAT scores for 2009 seniors again exceeded those of state and national populations. This is significant since 91% of AB students took the SATs, compared to the state average of 84% and the national average of 46%. Our average combined score for the SAT was 1865, which is 315 points higher than the average combined Massachusetts score of 1550.

National Merit Scholarship Competition: Twelve members of the Class of 2009 achieved semi-finalist recognition; 63 others received letters of commendation.

National Honor Society: There were 98 members of the class of 2010 inducted into the NHS.

National World Language Honor Societies: In 2009, 31 students of Spanish qualified for membership in the local chapter of the National Spanish Honor Society; 24 students qualified for the National French Honor Society.

National, Regional, and State World Language Competitions: In 2009, 112 students placed both nationally and at the chapter level in the National French Examination. On the National Latin Exam, 54 students received gold medals and 30 received silver; 20 students received magna cum laude recognition, and 8 students received cum laude recognition.

World Language Achievement Awards and Leadership Awards: Forty-one students of Spanish, French, Latin and Italian were recipients of World Language Achievement Awards. Margaret Anderson was the recipient of the Leadership Award; Suman Naishadham received the Excellence in Spanish Award; Matthew Lim received the Excellence in French Award; Julia Bellotti received the Excellence in Italian Award; Elizabeth Christmas received the Excellence in Latin Award; and Edward Livshits received the Excellence in Chinese Award.

Academic Decathlon Team: The team of nine regulars and twenty alternates won the Massachusetts State Championship for the 17th time in the past 18 years. A total of 45 Massachusetts high schools competed. In addition, the team placed 13th overall in the country.

Mathematics Team and Competitive Activities: In the 2008-2009 season, the AB math team finished in second place in its monthly competitions in the Massachusetts Mathematics League. The team continued on to the April 2009 state competition, run by the Massachusetts Association of Mathematics Leagues, and placed #1. The team then competed in the New England Association of Mathematics Leagues competition in May 2009 and again placed #1. In addition to the team competitions, nine students were finalists in the Massachusetts Mathematics Olympiad exam – Xiaoyu He with a perfect score, as well

as David Corwin, Mo Zhou, Alan Chiao, Bryan Yang, Martin Ma, Vishrut Gupta, Amrit Narasimhan, and Danny Chiao. In the national AMC (American Math Competition), twelve students placed in the top 10% nationwide, and three of these – Xiayou He, Bryan Yang, and Vishrut Gupta – advanced to the third level of this competition, the USAMO (United States of America Mathematical Olympiad).

Speech and Debate: The team has over fifty students from grades 9-12. Competing in over ten tournaments in a variety of events ranging from Student Congress to dramatic interpretation and poetry reading, team members prepared original pieces and scripted selections to be presented and judged in each event. Competing in the Massachusetts Catholic Forensic League, the team was matched against teams from schools across the state and consistently placed in the medal rounds. The team's top competitors also competed on a national level in New York and at Harvard University.

Athletics: During the 2008-09 school year, participation in athletics remained consistent, with 1,822 students in grades 7-12. In the fall season, the girls' soccer team captured the Division I North Championship, and the football team qualified for the MIAA super-bowl playoffs. In the spring, our girls' tennis team captured the Division I North Championship.

Proscenium Circus: This student drama group, in addition to offering outstanding instruction in technical theater, acting, scene design, scene painting, costume design and stage management, offers outstanding award-winning dramatic and musical productions. Over 350 students participated in activities and shows throughout the year. The productions for 2008-2009 included the fall play, *Peter Pan*, with flying done by a professional company; the musical, *Cabaret*, which won Honorable Mention in the New England Regional Moss Hart Competition; The State Festival play, *The Big Eleven*, which was a state finalist, and *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown*. Rounding out the year were the competitive class plays and a festival of 10-minute plays.

Peer Leadership Program: Peer Leadership had another very successful year. The peer leaders facilitated alcohol/drug awareness programs in Acton's elementary schools. They also led social development programs at R. J. Grey Junior High. With a new, energetic student bond in place, we look forward to another successful year.

The School Newspaper: The Spectrum, published six times during the school year, includes articles and photography of interest to the ABRHS community. Its staff of approximately forty students works on all aspects of the paper, including writing, editing, photography, layout, and copy editing. The Spectrum is financially self-supporting through advertising and contributions from the PTSO.

Student Council: The primary student government group, consisting of 45+ students, elected representatives of their classes and also walk-on members. Student Council is responsible for organizing school-wide activities and fundraisers and for disbursing funds for improvement of the school facility on behalf of its students. They meet weekly on Tuesdays at 6 p.m. in the ABRHS Counseling Center.

"Window Seat": Acton Boxborough's Literary and Art Magazine and Creative Writing Club annually publishes two to three issues of student poetry, prose, lyrics, essays, narratives, translations, and art. Students write, edit, design, print, assemble, publicize, and distribute the magazine. Students write creatively every week to generate submissions for the magazine, and the magazine welcomes and encourages students not participating in the club to submit their art and writing for publication. "Window Seat" students also work in conjunction with the Robert Creeley Foundation to host the annual Robert Creeley poetry reading and the Helen Creeley student poetry prize, a competition for student poets that awards the winning students a cash prize and the honor to be an opening reader for the Robert Creeley award-winning poet.

Idiosyncrasy: The high school topical magazine, Idiosyncrasy, began eight years ago when a group of enthusiastic students approached English teacher Dennis Kavanagh with the idea. Since then, the magazine has put out two to three issues per year. Idiosyncrasy is a thematic magazine that looks at social issues from different cultural perspectives. The magazine encourages and celebrates the diversity of our world and the people in it. Idiosyncrasy is composed of editorial and factual articles that are intended to educate and inspire readers. Students conduct research, analysis, and synthesis in order to produce each issue.

Harvard Model Congress: Seven juniors represented ABRHS at this four-day government simulation. The Acton League of Women voters generously underwrote their participation. Those representing were: Chris Altieri, Maddy Benjamin, Jeremy Bloomstone, Zuzana Giertlova, Nishi Mehta, and Mark Soo.

Girls State: Junior Meryl Cherner attended with the support of the Maynard Emblem Club.

Boys State: Junior Mike Cogan attended with the support of the American Legion Post 235.

Career Exploration Activities: Beginning in November, approximately 160 students made one-day job shadowing visits to a variety of work sites. This program owes its success to the support of the Middlesex West Chamber of Commerce School Business Partnership Committee and to parents and other local residents willing to host students.

At three Career Breakfasts during the year, career speakers talked to groups of students interested in their fields of work. Over 150 students attended each of the three events. Thirty-nine members of the senior class completed three-week full-time internships at the end of the school year. Other career exploration activities included the Senior Seminar course, the Work Study program, and a website listing employment opportunities.

Senior Community Service Day: On May 1, the Class of 2009 spent the day working on volunteer projects in and around Acton and Boxborough. Before the seniors began their projects, they were served breakfast at the school by the faculty and administration. This was the fifteenth year that the senior class organized a Senior Community Service Day.

Community Service Activities: The school's "Accept the Challenge Program" encourages every student to become involved in some way in volunteer activities, either during the school year, during the summer, or both. The school held its ninth Community Service Awards Night on January 19, 2009. At this ceremony, 581 students received recognition for their volunteer efforts.

Pupil Services

Professional Development Grant funding enabled Pupil Services to expand the Lending Library for parents/guardians. Current books and materials assist parents and staff with deeper understanding of various disabilities and related issues. Pupil Services collaborated with the SpEd PAC to donate a duplicate set of books to the Acton Memorial Library and further collaborated in hosting the third annual Parent Workshop Day, which included stimulating presentations by Carol Kranowitz, The Out-of-Sync Child, and Dr. Arnie Kerzner, speaking to Parent/Child Connections. Parents and guardians continue to value this event and feedback is enthusiastic. The District's annual regulatory training is scheduled during the workshop day as well. The OnTeam Communiqué continues to be a viable mechanism for communication between Pupil Services and home. Moreover, as part of our continued collaboration with our SpEd PAC, points of information are also included.

Strengthening the Child Study/Student Assistance Teams in all schools was a priority for the 2008-2009 school year, consistent with the recommendations of the SPED Financial Task Force (findings presented in January 2009). All building-based teams have participated in training designed to promote consistent methods for better team effectiveness and responsiveness to the needs of students referred. Regular educator participation has broadened the perspective of the group and broadened the scope of intervention ideas and strategies across schools. Addressing the dilemmas associated with special

education eligibility; assessing multi-lingual students and families; and case management of students with emotional, educational, and behavioral issues have been discussed in targeted sessions. Data collection to evaluate whether the frequency, rate and duration of referrals have decreased, as well as best practices, will take place during the 2009-2010 school year.

It should be highlighted that specific action plans for each major driver within the SPED fiscal Task Force report were created, tying in a detailed plan for each driver with measurable outcomes. Not only was the content important (monitoring finances, IEP process, CASE programs, CASE transportation, referral system [child study team], communications, personnel distribution, legal fees, early intervention, and program development), but also the process. Through the process, staff has accepted ownership for the above areas, enhancing cooperation towards these common goals.

The Out-of-District (OOD) Coordinator has taken a leadership role in looking at viable options for streamlining the efficiency and effectiveness of the IEP process. In collaboration with the SpEd PAC, a study group has been formed to consider and discuss a number of options for IEP coordination using technology.

For out-of-district placements, the OOD Coordinator has charted OOD placements and students with similar needs. Over the past three years, 2-3 students were transitioned back each year to cost effective in-district programs by planning appropriate transitions where readiness is addressed, academically and socially. As part of the Pupil Services vision, the department created a continuum of services for K-6 and began its implementation. Additionally, a new specialized program was established at R. J. Grey (the Connections Program), which assisted the students from the K-6 continuum and other programs to make a smooth transition to the junior high by accessing specialized, well coordinated services in the least restrictive environment. Likewise, steps are in place to help transition students from the junior high to the high school. The Connections Program itself has significantly reduced out-of-district tuitions for students on the autism spectrum, as well as students significantly impacted by social and pragmatic language challenges. Forums and coffees were held with parents and other interested parties to brainstorm the components of the program, its scope, and its social dimensions.

The Essential Health Skills (ESHS) grant approved in July 2008 provided funding to individualize stress reduction programs and smoking cessation programs for students, purchased Automatic External Defibrillators (AED) for all schools, purchased SNAP software (plus a required server) for nurses, provided stipends for our school physicians, and increased direct service support for the R. J. Grey health

office. The nurses took an active role in the Wellness Task Force, which completed its work in May 2009, recommending policies and procedures pertaining to Life-Threatening Food Allergies and Wellness. The nurses further participated in H1N1 flu surveillance and study groups related to AED implementation and body mass index.

School safety is an on-going commitment by all district administrators, who strive to operate as a unit in planning and executing a preventive and action-oriented approach to school safety. Pupil Services continues to empower students and staff through continued professional development regarding stress management, cyberspace and internet safety. In addition to a junior high Parent Forum on cyberspace safety, a recent parent/guardian workshop, Nancy Mullin from Bullying Prevention, Inc. involved both regular and special education parents in learning about preventive and action-oriented approaches for bullying prevention. Professional Development Day provided training for all district staff, addressing student wellness through a better understanding of stress management and child and adolescent development (Dr. Cynthia Kaplan). The Director of Pupil Services offered a well-attended training on Adolescent Wellness for R. J. Grey's 8th Annual Project Wellness Day.

Mandated "Nonviolent Crisis Intervention" training continues to be provided for crisis teams within each school. In addition to "Physical Restraint Teams," all schools have established "Crisis Intervention Teams" made up of teachers, administrators and clinicians, trained to respond to broader safety-related situations. The Summer Leadership Institute offered its second Health and Wellness training for district administrators, including overviews of AED use, CPR, Universal Precautions, choking prevention, and Epi-pen administration.

The district believes that global awareness is the cornerstone to demographic change, which allows opportunities for external reflection about the rest of the world. In this regard, a series of meetings was coordinated to increase this level of awareness by considering international exchange programs, reviewing our curriculum, and discussing other venues where we increase general awareness. Concurrently, district administrators, teachers, specialists and clinicians prioritized internal change, looking inward at ourselves and our changing community – and wrestling with the competing viewpoints and values – through a community-based Changing Demographic survey. Study group members are presently analyzing and synthesizing data from these surveys and will report out to the community in 2010. The results assuredly will be a catalyst for essential dynamic change and growth for our school district.

The Performing Arts

At the Acton-Boxborough Regional High School, the Band and Chorus programs continued to flourish as they performed in and around our community, and more. The Band marched in the Acton Memorial Day Parade. A number of our choral ensembles sang at West Acton's Oktoberfest and also at a number of senior citizen events. Twenty-two of our student musicians from band, chorus and orchestra were selected to perform at the MMEA Eastern District Festival, held in January; twelve of these earned All-State recommendations. The choral department did a concert tour of Quebec, Canada. They had opportunities to sing in some outstanding venues and see the sights of Quebec. Our Madrigal Singers put on a Madrigal Dinner for the community in which they performed a renaissance-style dinner theater. And finally, our band program was fortunate enough to work with a conductor in residence. The guest conductor was Debra Huber, conductor of bands at UMass Lowell and alumni of ABRHS! It was an outstanding experience for our band members and community.

At the R. J. Grey Junior High School, the 8th-grade Band and Chorus each participated in the Great East Music Festival, held at West Springfield High School in May. Both received Gold Medals for their performances. The JHS musical, "Alice in Wonderland," had a terrific run of performances with a huge cast of approximately 100 students involved. Twenty-two students were selected to perform in the concert band, orchestra or chorus at the MMEA Eastern Junior District Music Festival held in March.

At the elementary schools, the Beginning and Advanced Bands performed very well in their Winter and Spring Concerts. The bands also performed at each school's Memorial Day Assemblies, along with songs and poems performed by individual classes. The Gate's School chorus sang in a Pan Choral Concert with members of the junior high and high school choruses.

The Visual Arts

Throughout the school year, student efforts and accomplishments in the Visual Arts program were exhibited in each of the seven schools and the High School Administrative Conference Room, as well as off-site venues. Student artwork appeared in various school newsletters, and drawings by kindergarten students graced the cover of the Kindergarten Handbook.

In the highly competitive Boston Globe Scholastic Art Awards, 25 ABRSD students (15 high school and 10 junior high) received a total of 30 state-level awards. These awards included: nine Gold Key Awards, nine Silver Key Awards, and twelve Honorable Mention Awards. The Gold Key and Silver Key student work was exhibited at the

State Transportation Building in Boston during January and February. Award-winning students were recognized at an awards ceremony at Hancock Hall in Boston. Student work receiving Gold Key Awards was sent to New York for the National Scholastics judging. One student received a Gold Key Award at the Scholastics National level. National Award winning work was exhibited in New York City art galleries during the month of June, and students were honored at an awards ceremony at the Corcoran Gallery of Art. One RJG art teacher, the Visual Arts Director, and four high school students assisted teams of judges during the daylong Scholastics judging process held at the State Transportation Building in January. The K-12 Visual Arts Director also serves on the Massachusetts Scholastics Advisory Board.

The two ABRHS juniors who applied to Art All State at the Worcester Art Museum were both selected. They were among 145 high school juniors statewide who were selected to participate in the competitive Art All-State program at the Museum, held in May. Art All-State is a weekend-long program for high school art juniors to work with their peers and with practicing artists who serve as mentors. Each district is limited to two student applicants. Selection is based upon digital images of student work, a written application, and an interview with a team of art educators. The K-12 Visual Arts Director serves on the Art All-State Steering Committee.

High school students in the Junior/Senior Portfolio class prepared and exhibited their work in a show entitled "Elections," which was held at the Acton Memorial Library in April.

Students in Advanced Drawing/Painting, Junior/Senior Portfolio, and Art History classes visited the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York in the spring. The focus of this trip was for students to gain exposure to actual works of art and to compare and contrast works of art.

During March, Acton and Acton-Boxborough student artwork was exhibited in the annual Youth Art Month Show at the Worcester Art Museum. Forty-two APS/AB student works were included. There was an opening reception for students, their families, and art teachers in the Museum's Renaissance Court. The Conant, Douglas, Gates, Merriam and McCarthy-Towne Schools, as well as R. J. Grey Junior High and the Acton-Boxborough Regional High School, were all represented in this show.

A show of representative student artwork from each of the seven schools was on display at the Acton Senior Center during the month of May. The work of 37 students was included in this exhibit.

High school students had the opportunity to participate in Photo Club and in Art Club, both of which met after school one afternoon a week throughout the year.

K-12 Visual Arts staff participated in the first year of a curriculum review. The focus was on curriculum mapping and compliance with state standards.

Technology

Instructional Technology

During the 2008-2009 school year, many instructional technology projects were initiated and successfully implemented. The Department of Technology Integration and Instruction, directed by Priscilla Kotyk, had the following initiatives.

District wide

The district continues its commitment to have all curriculum documentation available on the district website. The site is reviewed on an ongoing basis and additional documentation is added, presenting new courses and programs.

The online professional development catalog of offerings (Acton/Acton-Boxborough SmartPD) has been well received by the teachers. Staff members may access their professional development records at any time. These records summarize for each staff member the courses/workshops s/he has completed, earned PDPs/Credits to date, and registration confirmations for future workshops and courses. In addition, the site is a repository of informational documents pertaining to professional development.

Our department's part-time web-designer redesigned several websites during the year. The Merriam School, APS Preschool, and Instructional Technology Department websites have been redesigned. The Acton Long Ago website continues to be updated with primary source materials and instructional activities for students. In addition to the district sites, we have helped teachers at all grade levels create classroom websites. We developed specific templates and a scalable deployment that has enabled many teachers to communicate with students and families via the Internet.

High School

Many exciting ongoing projects are underway in the area of instructional technology. Students are using technology tools to create multimedia presentations, research course topics, and access online course-related materials. Several technology-related electives are offered, including but not limited to: web design, computer-aided design, programming, engineering, and broadcasting. Teachers

are using our course management program, Moodle, to offer online courses and provide supplemental material to students.

The high school's expanded Technology Committee, with representation from all departments, met periodically to share best practices with technology and discuss ideas around professional development for teachers and technical issues or concerns. In the spring of 2009, eighty-five seniors volunteered to take the Educational Testing Service iSKILLS test to provide the district with data regarding our students' informational skills. The high school Technology Planning Committee meets regularly to discuss hardware deployments, software purchases, replacement computers, and new initiatives.

Junior High School

The junior high is continuing its commitment to expand the number of multimedia classrooms and to provide laptops to teachers. Teachers and students continue to use technology in all content areas to enhance teaching and learning. Various exploratory courses use instructional technology to learn information skills, computer-aided design, and engineering design concepts. In some cases, students create multimedia final projects that express their curricular understandings. The counseling department is developing a website, Voices of RJ Grey, which will offer information regarding various aspects of school culture and issues facing young teens. Teachers continue to create and enhance classroom websites, strengthening the link between teachers, families, and students.

Elementary Schools

Elementary teachers participated in a 3-hour laptop orientation session during the summer to learn about and receive their new laptops. In addition, a part-time building-based Instructional Technology Specialist began working in each school. With this support and training, teachers were able to successfully transition from old technology to new. The November 2008 Professional Development Day focused on instructional technology. Select teachers offered fourteen different one-hour sessions to their colleagues. These sessions introduced teachers to various applications and activities using their new laptops. The feedback was extremely positive.

The Individual Teacher Innovation Plan (iTIP) initiative was launched as a follow-up to the professional day. The iTIP helps teachers articulate specific plans for using instructional technology tools with the intent of selecting new skills or projects that are meaningful and relevant. Teachers are encouraged to identify individual plans, as well as plan with a team of colleagues on a specific technology-related project.

Twenty-five teachers completed the Web 2.0 Tools course offered in the fall of 2008. Teachers learned about blogs, podcasts, wikis and vodcasts and planned activities that integrated these tools into their instruction.

In all five elementary schools, teachers use mobile Alphasmart labs. Alphasmarts are electronic keyboards. The labs come equipped with management software that allows teachers to distribute to and gather information from all thirty Alphasmarts at the same time.

Gates Elementary has mounted interactive whiteboards (SmartBoards) in grades 4-6. In 2008-09 additional Smartboards were installed: eleven in Douglas; nine in McCarthy-Towne; two in Merriam; and two in Conant. Teachers formed study groups to work with building-based ITS to learn how to leverage the capabilities of the SmartBoard to enhance instruction. The article, Where Exactly is Bangalore? Entering the World of Interactive Whiteboards by Jodi Phelan (ITS at McCarthy-Towne), was published in the Fall 2009 MASCD Perspectives Newsletter. This article discusses ITS support of teachers learning to use interactive whiteboards for the first time.

Information Technology

During the 2008-2009 school year, the district's Information Technology department provided valuable technology support services. The Information Technology department, directed by Steve Hall, had the following accomplishments:

District wide

The Information Technology department coordinated and implemented a large number of infrastructure upgrades.

In order to support the new elementary school laptops, new servers and services had to be brought online. This included new servers to provide computer imaging, software deployment, and client management for the district's additional quantity of Macintosh clients.

A new district wide nurse health database was implemented to provide tracking, reporting, and adherence to state regulations.

We loaded and prepared all new computers purchased to replace aging equipment, performed maintenance on over 1,000 other computers, and loaded new software on district computers in preparation for the new school year.

For staff with district laptops, we provided drop-off service in order to provide preventive maintenance and update software during the summer.

The district's 30 servers were also updated for security purposes, as well as to support new services and initiatives. The district's Active Directory domain was also updated to support new initiatives.

Support and maintenance was provided for the 150+ pieces of district network equipment.

A new wireless network was installed at the Junior High School to facilitate better use of teacher and student laptops.

The district's Internet link was upgraded to support the higher-bandwidth needs of modern technology. Significant portions of the district's core network equipment, firewall, spam filter, and web security filtering systems had to be updated to support the new Internet link.

A new web-accessible tutor database was written and deployed by the IT department.

All infrastructure support contracts were analyzed and adjusted, and new vendors were selected to maintain appropriate service levels, high availability, and alignment with budget realities.

A new set of password security guidelines was created and implemented for all staff to improve the integrity and protection of district information.

The IT department continues to provide implementation, support, and project management expertise for all technology-related initiatives throughout the district.

High School

The IT department prepared 146 new laptops and desktops, which replaced aging and unsupportable computers used by teachers and students. We also provided maintenance and support services for approximately 700 high school computers and printers throughout the year.

Junior High School

The IT department prepared fifty new laptops and desktops, which replaced aging and unsupportable computers used by teachers and students. We also provided maintenance and support services for approximately 300 computers and printers throughout the year.

Elementary Schools

The IT department prepared 155 new laptops for elementary school teachers, which replaced aging and unsupportable computers. We also managed the installation and setup of multimedia equipment (interactive whiteboards, video projectors, and sound systems) in

twenty-four classrooms and provided maintenance and support services for approximately 500 elementary school computers and printers throughout the year.

Summer School

The Acton-Boxborough Regional School District Summer School had another successful year in 2009. With our enrollment of 498 students, we served nearly 100 more students than in 2005. Fifteen percent of our students came from twelve other districts. Several Math, Science, and Physical Education courses reached capacity much later in the summer, forcing us to turn away fewer (than in 2008) students not currently enrolled in the Acton-Boxborough Regional School District.

The number of student scholarships increased by 5% from 2008.

The number of faculty positions remained at 28, the same number as in '08.

Tuition receipts continue to allow us to function as a self-sustaining educational program.

Summer School course changes (from 2008) include: the addition of a Microbiology course and an additional Physics course, running the French 1 - 2 curricula, and the addition of one Math Algebra I section.

We continue to serve Acton, Boxborough, and several outlying communities with first rate, summertime, K-12 educational opportunities.

Community Education

The Community Education office is located in the Administration Building, 15 Charter Road, Acton. Its staff organizes, staffs and directs the following programs and activities.

Day and Evening Classes: Nearly 2,000 classes are offered yearly for children, teens and adults. Classes and other programs are listed in INTERACTION, the Community Education catalog that is mailed four times a year to over 21,000 area homes. More than 10,000 students enroll in classes each year.

Extended Day Program: Serving 301 Acton families, Extended Day offers quality before- and after-school care for 382 children in grades K-6.

Preschool Program: Located at the Acton-Boxborough Regional High School, the Community Education Child Development Preschool is the laboratory for the Child Development Course. Completely funded and staffed by

Community Education, the Child Development/Preschool course awards seven elective credits toward graduation. Preschool has a total enrollment of 34 (16 three year-olds on Tuesday and Thursday; 18 four year-olds on Monday, Wednesday and Friday).

All-Day Kindergarten Program: Community Education administers the business affairs of the All-Day Kindergarten programs at Douglas, Conant, Gates, McCarthy-Towne and Merriam Schools.

Summer Day Program: Located at the Administration Building, this program offers weeklong sessions of summer activities to more than 80 children per week in grades 1-6. Also provided is a preschool summer program (Summer Capers and Friday Frolics) for four and five year-olds, vacation programs (offering enrichment activities and day care during school vacations), and many short sport clinics.

Youth Basketball League: Offering 13 weeks of coaching, practice and league play to more than 1,100 boys and girls in grades 3 and up, the league is staffed by more than 110 paid and volunteer coaches, timers, and referees. Community Education runs clinics for referees at no charge.

Driver Education: Community Education runs a Registry-approved driving school, offering classroom instruction and on-road training to 280 students annually.

Pool & Field house Programs: Located at ABRHS, the Pool & Field house Program consists of family open swim and open gym times for basketball on the weekends. Also offered in this facility is a full Red Cross Swim Program, a youth swim team, master's swim, morning and evening lap swim, and water exercise classes.

Community Education also conducts classes and schedules drop-in times for the public at the Fitness Center, located at the Acton-Boxborough Regional High School.

Schedule of School Fields: Little League, Pop Warner, Youth Lacrosse and Youth Soccer, as well as individuals, businesses and community organizations, receive permits for school field use through Community Education. Fees charged are returned to the schools' Facility Department for field maintenance. Community Education also schedules Leary Field for school and community use.

Scheduling Use of School Buildings: All evening, weekend, holiday, and vacation use of the seven school buildings is scheduled through Community Education.

Community Education receives no funding from the school districts or town and runs all programs on a self-sustaining basis. Moneys are returned to the following for

use of space and equipment – AV, Technology Department, Physical Education Department, Art Department, Facilities, and the Central Office.

For more information about Community Education and the programs that it offers, call (978) 266-2525.

Facilities and Transportation

We had a very short summer to accomplish our annual summer cleaning, preventive maintenance, and work orders that come up through the course of the year. In addition to the standard cleaning, basic repairs, and preventive maintenance, other summer work projects we are working to complete or have completed are:

At Conant

Landscape Repairs
Asphalt Repairs

At Douglas

Painting of the Cafetorium / and Health Office
New Flooring Main Office
Bathroom Partitions

At Gates

New Paving
Creation of Additional Parking
Painting of some classrooms

At Merriam Administration Building

HVAC Repairs
Tree Removal
Preparation for the coming of Danny's Place

Campus

Catch Basin Repairs
Road Repair

RJ Grey Junior High

Rock Wall Repair

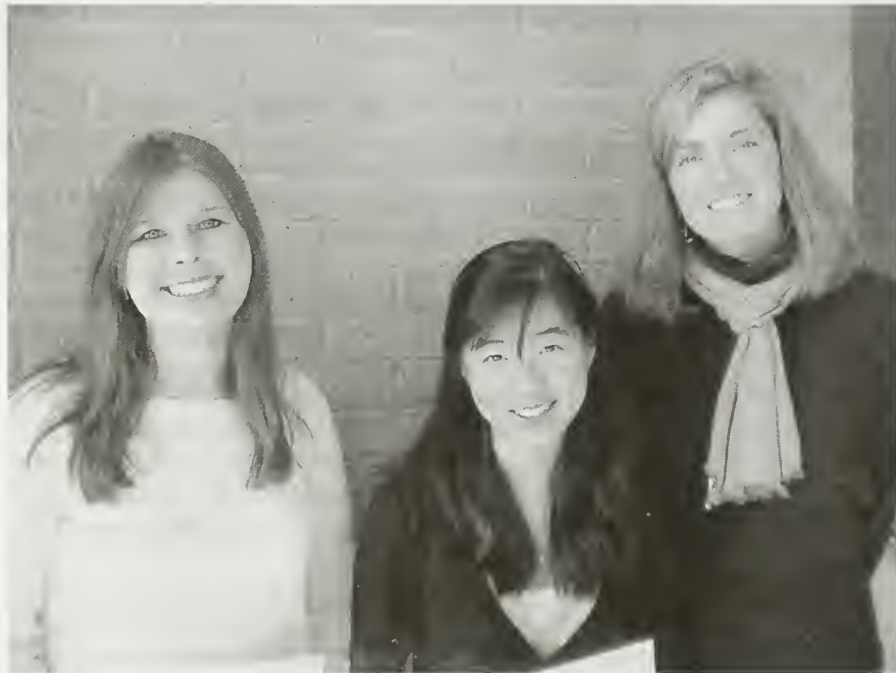
In Conclusion

This report demonstrates that the Acton Public Schools and the Acton-Boxborough Regional School District are complex organizations. Nonetheless, the districts possess a clear mission and vision. They are fortunate to possess a dedicated staff, who make a habit of constant self-reflection and, as resources allow, of renewal.

Our students, teachers, and administrators continue to perform at high levels – academically, athletically, artistically, personally and professionally – and so the Acton Public Schools and the Acton-Boxborough Regional School District maintain a reputation that attracts people to the communities and to our schools. It is our intention to continue to provide the best possible education to the communities and to seek continued financial and moral support for this very important endeavor.

The towns of Acton and Boxborough have a great investment in the schools since the schools serve the communities' youth and adult populations through public schooling, Community Education, and as a center for much community activity. This is a win-win situation for both the towns and the schools that we want to maintain for the future.

Stephen E. Mills
Superintendent of Schools
On Behalf of the School Committees
January 2010



Pictured with Principal Alixe Callen (right) are the winners of the 2008-09 ABRHS Prudential Community Service Award, Erin Sweet and Alyssa Zhu.

BUNNY LAWTON

Sarah "Bunny" Lawton retired from the Acton Public and Acton-Boxborough Regional School in the summer of 2009. The article in the June 2009 Lamplighter was based on the following text.

Chocolate . . . peppermint ice cream . . . bell ringing . . . bird watching . . . stacks of colored paper. For anyone who knows Bunny Lawton, mentioning these words will automatically bring her to mind, and the list could be much longer.

After growing up, going to school [with a diversion to Wells College in New York], and working in Pennsylvania, Bunny moved to Acton with her family in 1973. She started her association with the Acton Public and Acton-Boxborough Schools in the time-honored way – volunteering in an elementary school library. In 1981, she was hired as a media assistant to work with librarian Jill Colpak at the high school. When an opening developed in the central office in 1987, Bunny became the Assistant to Mac Reid, Director of Personnel at the time.

Just over ten years were spent in the old central office. The room where Bunny worked was shared with two others – a very tight fit, but everyone worked well together and became friends. Over those years, Bunny worked as Assistant to Mac Reid, to Isa Zimmerman (former Superintendent), and to Bill Ryan, as well as Secretary to the School Committees during her association with the Superintendent's Office. All of them benefited greatly from her help, as have the rest of us who have worked with her.

Retirement is enticing. Bunny's children (and new grandson), her mother, her sister's family, and many of her friends all live outside the Acton area, so travel is sure to figure prominently in the future. In addition, she enjoys participating in many other activities, particularly gathering with friends, bell ringing, bird watching, kayaking, playing bridge, taking walks, and being involved in her church.

For so many reasons, our office and school communities will be affected by the absence of Bunny and her many wonderful attributes.



MINUTEMAN SCIENCE TECHNOLOGY HIGH SCHOOL_____

About Minuteman

Minuteman High School is a four-year career and technical high school serving our member towns: Acton, Arlington, Belmont, Bolton, Boxborough Carlisle, Concord, Dover, Lancaster, Lexington, Lincoln, Needham, Stow, Sudbury, Wayland, and Weston, as well as, 47 other cities and towns in Eastern Massachusetts. Minuteman combines rigorous academics and preparation for college with relevant career and technical programs. The school also provides career development programs for adults as part of our self sustaining Community Education Program.

Enrollment

As of October 1, 19 high school students and four post graduate students were enrolled at Minuteman providing a full time equivalent (FTE) of 23 students that reside in Acton. Minuteman offers a part time program where Acton-Boxborough High School students are able to take part in elective technical training courses on a half-day basis. Currently, very few Acton-Boxborough High School students take advantage of this unique program designed to give juniors and seniors the opportunity to explore career majors and still remain at Acton-Boxborough High School High School. The District offers 'Post Graduate' programs to Acton residents of any age who are seeking to enhance their own economic opportunity at Minuteman via skill development.

2009 Acton Graduates and Awards
Elizabeth Cane, Biotechnology Academy
Kaitlyn Caplan, Office Technology
Tayling Conceicao, Culinary Arts
Joseph Dargin, Engineering
Thomas Hamwey, Automotive Technology
Amanda Hudson, Cosmetology
Gregory Margolis, Engineering
Michael Morits, Robotics
Kelsey Palmer, Graphic Communications
Benjamin Sancetta, Engineering

Elizabeth Cane and Gregory Margolis received the Friends of Minuteman award. In addition, Gregory Margolis received Bonnie Hilla Memorial Award and the Comcast Leaders and Achievers Scholarship. Benjamin Sancetta received the Acton-Boxborough Rotary Club Scholarship. Tayling Conceicao received the Francis Kopias (Wayside Inn) Memorial Award. Benjamin Sancetta received the Marine Corps Scholastic Achievement Award. Joseph Dargin received the Middlesex Savings Bank Scholarship.

SkillsUSA Awards – Acton Student(s)

Benjamin Sancetta* was a Gold State and Bronze National medalist for Engineering Technology. Gregory Margolis was a Gold State and Bronze National medalist for Engineering Technology. Joseph Dargin was a Bronze State medalist Robotics & Automation Technology. Lily Cane was selected as a National Voting Delegate. Michael Morits was a Silver State medalist for Robotics & Automation Technology.

Class of 2009 Graduate Achievement Highlights

100% successfully passed the state-required MCAS tests in English and Math.

66% college acceptance or advanced Technical Training, 27% career bound in field and 3% military. Overall, graduates achieved a 96% placement rate.

100% of Dental graduates passed the National Dental Board examination.

The Massachusetts Department of Early Education and Care certified 100% of Early Education and Care program graduates.

100% of Cosmetology graduates that participated in the state board examination were certified.

Health Occupation graduates achieved 100% in college acceptance.

The Minuteman Career & Technical High School Committee, the Massachusetts Association of Vocational Administrators, and the State Commissioner of Education honored Rebecca Rowe, an Environmental Technology graduate from Arlington, as the Massachusetts Vocational Student of the Year.

JonFranco Barreto, a Biotechnology student from Medford graduated Valedictorian of the Class of 2009.

• Student speakers at the Class of 2009 graduation ceremony were Valedictorian JonFranco Barreto of Medford, Salutatorian, Christopher Sproul of Stow, and Class President Alicia Ofria of Medford.

Leadership, Governance and Communication

The New England Association of Schools and Colleges conducted a decennial site visit to Minuteman in March of 2009. On December 10th, the Superintendent received a letter from Paul Bento, Director of the Commission announcing our re-accreditation. The following are excerpts:

"I write to inform you of deliberations of the Commission on Technical and Career Institutions at its November 5-6, 2009 meeting, at which time the Commission reviewed the report of its decennial visiting committee dated March 3-6, 2009, and voted continued accreditation for Minuteman Career & Technical High School with a Two-Year Progress Report due February 1, 2011, and a Five-Year Focused Visit in the Spring 2014.

The Commission commends the administration and staff at Minuteman Career & Technical High School for the many commendations identified by the visiting committee. The Commission wishes to highlight several of the accomplishments listed by the committee, although it does so not minimizing the many good things listed in the decennial visiting committees report. These commendations are:

1. The positive school climate observed by the visiting committee and displayed by students and staff
2. Administrative efforts to provide leadership in developing plans needed to initiate a comprehensive improvement project for the facility
3. The articulation of the school's Mission Statement and Goals into learning experiences for Students
4. The enthusiastic and committed staff

The Commission also focused on several visiting committee recommendations that are of particular concern and to which the school should pay particular attention as it strives to reach excellence. These recommendations are:

1. Address all health and safety recommendations detailed throughout the report
2. Continue to work toward funding and implementing the facility renovation project
3. Develop and implement new and additional strategies to recruit students to take advantage of the excellent educational opportunities available
4. Continue to work toward greater integration between academic and vocational/technical program instructors"

The complete NEASC Report is available at www.minuteman.org.

The Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA) and Treasurer Tim Cahill announced Minuteman's inclusion in the Career & Technical Education Building Program, providing \$100M to 10 Career & Technical Schools for renovation and repairs. MSBA invited Minuteman to the Feasibility phase of a renovation project (visit www.minuteman.org for more information.)

The Minuteman ESCO project upgraded and retrofit a number of the school's energy-using building systems with cutting-edge technology and implemented a series of energy efficiency strategies that will trim Minuteman's energy use as much as 50% and generate equivalent savings on the school's energy bill. Upon completion of \$5,000,000 worth of work which included new boilers, chillers, electrical switch gear, lighting upgrades and weatherizing Minuteman saves 57% of our water; 44% Gas and 22% of our electrical bill. This results in savings of about \$275,000. In addition, annual energy savings is being used to pay for the improvements; thus no cost to our member communities.

Curriculum and Instruction

The Art program has been restored to the Minuteman Curriculum. More than 160 students have enrolled in three levels of classes and a waiting list has been established. A Health class has also been established to supplement a well-rounded student education. Minuteman has reinstated music as a formal elective course and performance outlet after a hiatus of over twenty-five years. The purpose is to assemble a comprehensive music and performing arts program and attending graduation requirements during the next four years. Our expectations include the development over time of a diversified course of instruction that will feature traditional course work (chorus, theory, instrumental instruction and performance) as well as activities that reinforce the relationship between musical knowledge and skill and our technical majors, including electronics and computer programming as well as recording and sound engineering. Minuteman has added a full-time Reading Specialist position that combines classroom teaching with consulting responsibilities. Reading skills improvement is a school-wide goal. The Reading Specialist oversees our computer-assisted remedial reading lab, co-teaches developmental English classes, and provides specific reading services per students' Individualized Educational Plans (IEP). In addition, he will share his expertise in collaboration with all academic and career and technical departments to improve curriculum delivery through the active application of reading strategies and study skills. Minuteman has re-instituted the full-time position of licensed School-Adjustment Counselor. Special Education grant funding supports the position, and it allows for the provision of counseling services to students in response to needs articulated in their Individualized Educational Plans (IEP).

Career and Technical programs are now aligned along five Career Clusters: Agriculture and Transportation, Bio-Science, Business and Information Technology, Human & Commercial Services, and Trade & Engineering. Clustering allows for common core curriculum to be delivered in clusters to 9th and 10th grades students.

Since the Fall of 2008 all 9th grade students partake in daily English and Math instruction, rather than the long-established "week on-week off" schedule, thus providing consistent academic instruction in preparing for required MCAS score increases by the state department of education.

Assessment and Program Evaluation

Minuteman developed a Non-traditional Exploratory Program through which all students learn about the viability and challenges of men and women in non-traditional careers, such as Automotive Technology, Carpentry and Construction, Computer Science, and Engineering for women and in Medical Careers, Cosmetology / Barbering, and Office Technology for young men. The students learn about these careers through a series of hands-on exercises, guest speakers and alumni panelists, and field site visits to industry partners.

Minuteman is moving towards a 'modified inclusion model' for Special Education students. Professional development for staff continues as we implement this proven strategy.

Minuteman underwent its 3rd New England Association of Schools and Colleges Decennial re-accreditation site visit in March of 2009 and Minuteman will remain an accredited High School.

Minuteman students performed very well on the 2009 MCAS: 92% pass rate in Math, 100% pass rate in English, 95% pass rate in Science & Technology.

Professional Development

The Minuteman staff has prioritized two professional development topics for the 2007 – 2010 timeframe. Based upon feedback from our EQA report, several half-day training sessions on summative and formative assessment methodologies are being held. In addition, the development of Professional Learning Communities is happening for 40 staff with several outside resources.

Student Access, Participation and Support

Minuteman reorganized the assignment of guidance counselors to provide incoming 9th grade students with a dedicated guidance counselor. Our research has shown that many freshmen need additional support as they made the adjustment to High School.

In addition to having a dedicated 9th grade counselor, the re-assignment strategies now include counselors covering the career clusters. This provides the counselors with a more thorough knowledge of the career areas and the staff.

Minuteman offers 16 sports with three levels (Varsity, Junior Varsity and Freshmen) throughout the school year. Over the past seven years the number of participants has doubled in many of the sports offered. Minuteman maintains a no cut and no athletic fee policy. In addition, Minuteman students have access to more than 30 clubs and activities.

The Minuteman Parent Association meets monthly and supports all aspects of the Minuteman community. In addition, they assist in fundraising for scholarships awarded at graduation. The goal of the MPA is to help support student access and achievement in all areas including but not limited to academic, vocational, athletic, and extra-curricular activities.

A new website, www.minuteman.org, launched in September 2009.

Financial and Asset Management Effectiveness and Efficiency

The Minuteman FY10 budget was passed unanimously at \$17,496,001, which represents a 2.91% increase without taking into account the cost of the Middle School Tech Programs. A portion of the increase was due to rising health care costs and utility costs.

Budgets continue to be tightly managed as Minuteman seeks to 'right size' itself and reduce its' per pupil expenditures.

A new financial management software system was implemented to improve the efficiency in the Business Office as well as a restructuring of staff. A new Director of Business and Operations position was hired with the impending retirement of two separate administrators. This position oversees all areas of non-instructional support services provided to the school and will continue to improve efficiency in all of these areas.

The FY10 Capital funds were used for major systems repairs, continuing to implement the approved Technology Plan, upgrading the main entrance mall area of the school, relocating the vocational coordinator office, renovating and relocating the Early Education Child Care Center, renovating of hallway areas and the cafeteria space, upgrading the pool heating systems, upgrading the graphic arts classrooms, physical education classrooms, and fitness room for students, refurbishing the tennis courts, relocating the maintenance office, renovating classroom space for a new music room and barbering room and relocating and installing the student made welding horse at the front entrance of the school.

Dr. Edward A. Bouquillon,
Superintendent
Dore Hunter,
Acton's Representative to the School Committee

ACTON MEMORIAL LIBRARY_____

Spurred in part by the lagging economy, library use boomed in 2009. Circulation rose to over 665,000 and July's use (62,299) exceeded 60,000 items for the first time ever. More than 265,000 people came through the library's doors; one in ten of them used a public Internet computer. Additional staff hours beginning July 1 plus implementation of a self-check out station helped the organization maintain and even improve services, adding another hour of service on Saturdays in the summer.

Changes at the Library

Acton Memorial Library strives to meet users' needs. In line with this, four new databases were added in 2009: Morningstar Investment Resource Center, Consumer Reports, historical newspapers through the NewspaperArchives database, and Mango Languages, which includes 22 foreign languages and 14 English language basic courses. A list of hard copy periodicals subscribed to by the library was added to its website. New signage makes it easier to find different areas on the second floor.

Through the library's membership in the Minuteman Library Network, Acton cardholders now have access to hundreds of Overdrive audio books and ebooks. Many of these and of the titles available through the Netlibrary database are now compatible with iPods.

Kill a Watt meters, which measure electrical use; Playaways, highly portable digital books; and Hindi language books were added to circulating collections along with a museum pass for the Institute of Contemporary Art, donated by the Office of Michael Rosenfeld, Inc., Architects. The CD and DVD college lectures were reclassified into a new College Courses collection so that the public would find all the lectures in one location.

Due to a software upgrade implemented by the Minuteman Library Network with the support of a federal grant, it is now possible to search the Minuteman Library Network Catalog for non-roman materials by inputting Chinese or Russian characters. Records located with Chinese or Russian input will also display in the native scripts, rather than in transliteration.

CASSIE, the software that schedules public use computers, was adapted to handle print management as well through pre-paid accounts. The result gives users

the option of color printing, saves reference staff time and ensures all printing is paid for.

An Express Lane self check-out station was installed at the circulation desk in October. In November and December, over 10% of the items circulated were checked out via Express Lane; another Express Lane station will be added in 2010. Checkout is ~20-25% of the work of a circulation transaction, with the remainder being check-in and re-shelving.

In an effort to help job seekers, the reference department offered computer classes highlighting skills applicants need plus programs covering online job search skills and databases for job seekers. Additional copies of related materials were purchased. Resource lists on resumes, cover letters, interviews, career change and similar topics were posted on the library's website with live links to the Minuteman Library Network catalog and links to useful websites for job seekers.

With grants provided by Verizon and the Boston Herald to English at Large and to 2008 Literacy Champion Lynne Osborn, two laptops were purchased and customized for literacy tutors to use with their learners.

For the first time in many years, fines were increased on adult books, raising them from 10 to 15 cents a day. Little negative feedback was received.

It is over 10 years since the library reopened after renovation and expansion and the building is starting to show wear. During 2009, Municipal Properties repainted the Meeting Room and re-carpeted the stairs and the area in front of the circulation desk. Library state aid funds were used to purchase new coloring tables and chair, and new computer chairs replaced the worn and unsafe ones in the children's room.

With the help of the Town's Human Resources Department, a number of job descriptions were updated for the first time since the mid-1980's, three positions were reclassified, and a current organization chart developed.

Staff attended Minuteman Library Network and Metrowest Regional Library System meetings plus workshops on dealing with the public and dealing with people from different cultures.

The Acton Memorial Library Foundation, in memory of former Library Trustee and Foundation board member Mildred Jarvis, donated Arthur Davis' portrait of his mother now hanging on the second level next to the donation plaques.

The library director was part of the review committee for the high school and junior high school libraries' long-range plan and implementation of the library's Long Range Plan continued.

Library Services

Acton Memorial Library offers a wide range of services, many also accessible from home, for children and adults. The library has books, newspapers, magazines, DVDs, CDs, recorded books, museum passes and local history and genealogy collections. Rental books and DVDs are offered, courtesy of the Friends of the Acton Libraries. There is an extensive multi-format Chinese language collection and small French, Gujarati, Hindi, Korean, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish, and Tamil collections. The large print materials collection is supported by a large print computer display and assistance devices for the hearing and visually impaired. Professional reference and children's librarians are available for assistance on-site, by phone and via the Internet. Reserve collections for school assignments can be arranged. Library staff visited schools, classes came to the library for tours, and the director spoke at the new teacher orientation. State and federal tax forms are offered.

Online services include the ability to place requests for items, renew materials, download audio books, access Internet and subscription databases, access online Minuteman displays in Chinese, Korean, Japanese and Russian, access the library event calendar, pay for fines and lost materials, and make museum pass reservations. Multiple public computers are provided with support for Arabic, Baltic, Chinese, Cyrillic, Greek, Hebrew, Japanese, Korean, Thai, Turkish, Vietnamese and Western and Central European languages. Printers, photocopiers, a microfilm reader, a flatbed scanner and a typewriter are available, as are computer classes and online tutorials for computer skills and school and professional tests. Wireless Internet access is available throughout the library. Library users have access to small study rooms and there is meeting room space available for community groups; in 2009, 614 meetings were held at the library. The library provides delivery of materials to the homebound, and offers volunteer opportunities. There are pre-registered children's story times for two year olds and drop-in story times for ages three to seven. During the summer reading program, there were drop-in craft programs for children up to Grade 4 and also for youngsters in Grade 4 and up. The Friends of the Acton Libraries sponsor an adult book discussion group. Other special programs include art displays, a collection of Arthur Davis paintings, speakers on a range of topics and an annual reading by a nationally known poet.

The library continued its strong support for local literacy programs by providing tours, a discrete literacy collection and space for tutoring, tutor training, student assessment, and conversational practice groups.

Library Website

The library continues to expand the content of its website, www.actonmemoriallibrary.org. Most significant was the additions to the library's Civil War Archives, which is accessible through the Online Historical Collections link. It includes data on over 350 men associated with Acton who served in the Civil War. Information includes service records, pension files, obituaries, newspaper articles, photographs, and regimental histories. Robbie Allen, an Acton Eagle Scout candidate who mapped all the Civil War graves in Acton's cemeteries, made a major contribution. He created a Google Earth image for each grave with GPS coordinates and labels for the paths in each cemetery. He also took photographs of each tombstone and transcribed the text. A combined effort from Trustees, staff, and a number of dedicated volunteers, the Civil War Archives is a work in progress, and will continue to expand.

The General Collections page on the website has also been expanded, with links to a monthly New Items list, the Periodicals collection, the Large Print collection, Foreign Language collections, and audiovisual collections.

Also new to the site this year is information on artists exhibiting in the Meeting Room, a link to the Robert Creeley Foundation's new website, library's Facilities Use policy and forms, and a link to the library's Chinese collection that uses the Minuteman Library Network Catalog's ability to input and display Chinese characters.

Civil War Exhibit

In 2009, the library was awarded \$8,000 in Community Preservation funds to implement enhancements to the Civil War Exhibit that opened on April 19th, 2008. The improvements include audio stations where visitors can hear the stories of Acton's veterans and their families can read from their letters plus better lighting and signage.

During the past year a committee made up of Library Director Marcia Rich, Trustees Dennis Ahern and Frank Joyner, former Library Director Wanda Null and Belle Choate from the Acton Historical Society has been working on the content for the audio component. Drawing from letters, diaries, pension files and affidavits, they have assembled a series of sixteen scripts that create an aural picture of life in those times. The recordings will bring to life the memory of those Acton men who served in the Civil War. The audio stations and other improvements will be completed during 2010.

Literary Arts Program

On March 23rd, 2009 Robert Creeley Award winner Sonia Sanchez read to an audience of over 200 in the R.

Grey Jr. High School auditorium. The winners of the Helen Creeley Prize for student poetry, Anna Cataldo of Concord-Carlisle High School and Kaila Guilmet of ABRHS, opened for Ms Sanchez, whose many honors include the Ucretia Mott Award, a National Endowment for the Arts Award, a Pew Fellowship in the Arts and the Robert Frost Medal for poetry. In addition she read at the "Realizing the Dream" event honoring Senator Ted Kennedy as part of President Obama's inaugural ceremonies. Ms. Sanchez so engaged the audience that there was much applause and many questions after her reading.

The following day she visited ABRHS reading and interacting with an audience approaching 1,000 students. She captured the interest of the students to such an extent that a luncheon with her had to be delayed to allow all of the students who wanted to talk with her and purchase autographed copies of her books.

The Friends of the Acton Libraries, Acton Memorial Library Foundation, Acton-Boxborough Community Education, the Georgia E. Whitney Memorial Fund, Acton-Boxborough Community Education and the Robert Creeley Foundation all provided funding for the 2008 event. In addition, for the first time, a generous corporate sponsor, the Middlesex Savings Bank, helped fund the event.

Creeley Event Committee

The Robert Creeley Foundation, now a 501(c)(3) incorporation, has assumed the responsibility for the annual Creeley events and created its own website, www.robertcreeleyfoundation.org. The Foundation still has strong ties to Acton Memorial Library as the bylaws and articles of incorporation call for the Library Director and at least one Trustee to be directors of the Foundation. For 2009/10 the working group consists of:

Maria Anthony	Tom Dunn
Julia Baum	Frank Flowers
Lauren Burdine	Frank Joyner
Bob Clawson	Tim Malloy
Annie Colbert	Sean McCoy
Sean D'Amico	Nishi Mehta
Mark Deming	Marcia Rich
Sarah Toulmin	

The Helen Creeley Prize competition continues to grow, with 46 individual responses received from 18 public and private high schools across the state. Evaluation of the responses resulted in 18 students auditioning for a panel of ABRHS faculty and students. This panel selected six to audition for the full Creeley working group, with Andy Vo from Boston Latin and Melanie Wang from Wayland High School selected as the 2010 Helen Creeley Prize winners. Wendy Chen from ABRHS and Alice Beecher from Hopkinton High School were selected as runners-up.

Friends of Pine Hawk

The Library continued to be host site for the Friends of Pine Hawk, a group founded in 2002 to better understand and publicize the archeological and human story behind the great treasure trove of Native American artifacts discovered at the "Pine Hawk" site in South Acton during the excavation for the new sewer treatment plant. Trustee Bob Ferrara and Library Director Marcia Rich are among the group, which includes private citizens and other professionals from the Discovery Museums, the Acton Schools, and Town Hall. This year, several new people joined as well.

As detailed on their web site at <http://www.actonmemoriallibrary.org/pinehawk>, the Friends again sponsored a month long series of seminars and events as part of State Archeology Month in October. The Acton Memorial Library hosted four of these. Acton Health Director Doug Halley, who has been the official Town contact for the Pine Hawk site since it was first discovered, titled the first "Pine Hawk Then and Now". He reviewed the history of the site, how it was excavated, what was found, and how some of the artifacts came back to Acton in an award-winning display housed in Town Hall. The next talk was by local archaeologist Kimberley Connors-Hughes, who reviewed the forces that shaped cultures. She cleverly used the archaeological remains in the Nashoba Brook conservation area and other Acton sites to serve as the basis for her illustrated discussion. The third session was a historic panel discussion by three Native American Tribal Historic Preservation Officers. Doug Harris of the Narragansett, Bettina Washington of the Gay Head (Aquinnah) Wampanoag, and Chucky Green of the Mashpee Wampanoag outlined efforts to identify and preserve the many Native American sacred landscapes in our region. The final session was a book discussion group of "1491", a landmark work about the new (and old) evidence on the impact and extent of the Native Americans in the Americas

Charlotte Sagoff Memorial Garden

Not long after her death in 2007, a group of Acton citizens and friends set out to honor the memory of Charlotte Sagoff, a beloved Acton resident for many years. Now a lovely new seating area and garden has been created just outside the main entrance of the Acton Memorial Library. This privately funded project was supported by members of the Acton Memorial Library Board of Trustees, the Friends of the Acton Libraries, the Acton Water District, and most of all, ACES (Acton Citizens for Environmental Safety). Over 100 donors, including



several leading local businesses, provided funding and other essential assistance. They are listed on the garden's web site at <http://www.actonmemoriallibrary.org/garden.htm>.

The Acton community was invited to a dedication ceremony on the morning of Saturday, September 12th at the Library. We are already seeing significant use of the garden, which comprises the area just outside and to the left of the main entrance of the Library. This 20 foot by 25 foot area includes a brick path and patio, three metal benches, a granite block table, and a garden with low maintenance, attractive plantings. Tom Tidman, Acton's Director of Natural Resources, created the overall design and the site work was done by Lenox Nursery & Garden Center of Acton. Recreation Director Cathy Fochtman and a dedicated band of volunteers carefully selected and planted a wonderful variety of flowers and shrubs. This welcoming area will serve Acton generations to come.

Visual Arts Committee

Trustee Ann Chang and Acton artist Kay Hartung co-chair the committee of several other local artists who select the artwork that hangs in the library's meeting room.

Every February, "a call for work" is sent out through an extensive email list collected over the previous year, and through the local media for artists to submit their work for review. The arts jury meets in early March to select the artists for the following year. The committee has reserved the month of April for student work from the high school.

The artists participating in 2009 were:

January & February	Ann Sussman, painting
March-	Sue Funk, mixed media, painting, pen & ink
May & June	Brenda Cironi, painting
July & August	Philip Keyes, photographs of Acton's conservation land
September & October	Maggie Stern, fabric collage
November & December	Jill Pottle, painting

Library Statistics

Calendar Year 2009:

Circulation: 666,353 (up 6.3%)

Traffic Count: 267,305 (up 6.7%)

Use of public Internet computers: 26,076 (up 19.6%)

Books read for the Summer Reading Program: 10,958

Fiscal Year 2009 (July 2008-June 2009)

Acton residents with active library registrations: 14,696 (up 1.8%)

Collections (total items): 151,381 (up 2.2%)

Reference questions: 19,122 (up 2.3%)

Children's programs: 149 (down 8.6%)

Children's program attendance: 3,184 (up 4.1%)

Adult programs: 43 (down 18.9%)

Adult program attendance: 450 (down 23.3%)

Items requested from other libraries: 60,210 (up 12.3%)

Items requested by other libraries: 53,365 (up 22.4%)

Number of people volunteering: 213 (up 129%)

Payments sent to Finance: \$51,402.78

Hours of Operation

The library is a seven-day-a-week service (67 hours a week) most of the year and a six-day-a-week service through the summer months.

Monday through Thursday 9-9

Friday and Saturday 9-5

Saturdays 9-1

Mid-June through early September;

Sunday 2-5

Closed Sundays mid-June through early September

The library is closed on state and federal holidays, Easter, and the day after Thanksgiving.

Staff

The Trustees recognize and appreciate the dedicated effort that members of the library staff make to create a welcoming environment.

Staff as of December 31, 2009

30-40 hours/week

Library Director	Marcia Rich
Assistant Director	Ellen Clark
Head of Circulation	Gloria Reid
Head of Reference	Susan Paju
Head of Children's Services	Lee Donohue
Reference Librarian	Julie Glendon
Library Assistant II	Suzanne Callahan
Library Assistant II	Joy Hamel

20-29 hours/week

Young Adult Librarian/Computer Specialist	Pam Parenti
Technical Services Librarian	Stephanie Knowland
Administrative Assistant	Mary Katis
Library Assistant II	Karen Anderson
Library Assistant II	Eunice Gorman

10-19 hours/week

Children's Librarian
Children's Librarian
Library Assistant II
Library Assistant I
Library Assistant I
Library Assistant I
Library Assistant I
Library Assistant I
Library Assistant I
Library Assistant I
Library Assistant I
Library Assistant I

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Marilu Nowlin
Barbara Rabb
Kaja Michaels
Barb Floss
Tina Hamilton
Liz Leaver
Mary Serr
Anshu Sood
Amy Spadano
Katherine Tolliver
Donna White
Mary Wile
Zuzana Giertlova
Jennifer Keefe
Melissa Gonzalez
Chloe Morse
Renjia Xu

Less than 10 hours/week

Children's Librarian
Reference Librarian
Reference Librarian
Reference/Children's Librarian
Page

Heather Wilkinson
Amy Stimac
Nancy Clune
Jane Flanders
Elana Richmond

Volunteers

This year saw a total of 213 individuals who gave their time and skills to assist in all areas of the Library's operations. The Trustees sincerely thank each and every one for their invaluable support. A yearly event is organized by the Trustees to recognize the volunteers and to thank them for their dedication and service.

Trustees
Robert Surdel, President
Frank Joyner, Vice President
Joseph Glannon, Secretary
Dennis Ahern
David Barrat
Ann Chang
Brewster Conant
Thomas Dunn
Robert Ferrara



These hikers reached the top of Mt. Wachusett.

WEST ACTON'S CITIZENS' LIBRARY_

With the historic restoration of our building successfully completed, the team at Citizens' Library turned our attention to the collection. Our goal was to manage it better and make it more accessible. In June, the library subscribed to an On Line Public Access Catalog called Library World and purchased a bar-coding system. Over the summer, we had a cadre of student volunteers working to enter titles into the online catalog and affix bar codes to each and every book in the library. Unfortunately, we ran out of summer before we ran out of books. At year's end, the bar coding was about 75% done with an anticipated completion date of early spring.

To host the new on line catalog, we worked with the IT Department to flesh out the Citizens' Library Webpage. Not only can our patrons search the catalog from home, but they can also reserve and renew books, register for tot time, and request museum passes.

While much of our energy has been focused on modernizing library operations, this summer we had the opportunity to participate in an age-old tradition which was recently brought to West Acton. For 16 Sundays from July through October, Citizens' Library opened in conjunction with the Acton Boxborough Farmers' Market. The Library grounds played host to children's programs and crafts and the Library itself welcomed many new patrons.

Programming highlights this year included a family concert titled Eat Like a Rainbow, given by singer Jay Mankita on the library lawn. The concert was held during the Farmer's Market hours on a beautiful September day and was enjoyed by all who attended. October brought our annual participation in the West Acton Oktoberfest, where volunteers ran a used book sale to raise funds for the library. Later that month we held our second annual Halloween Event. One hundred twenty people came out to hear Bonnie Rankin, a professional storyteller, tell spooky stories around a campfire we built in the back yard of the library. The event was a tremendous success. And in December, we once again hosted Santa Claus, much to the delight of the younger West Acton crowd.

In collection development, the library entered year two of what we expect to be a three-year effort to replace the majority of our juvenile non-fiction collection with updated material. We are using state aid funds as well as money donated to the library to purchase new materials that support the elementary school curriculum. We have also significantly expanded our collection of Easy Readers and children's DVDs. Our adult fiction collection remains diverse and strong.

Throughout the year, we have, of course, been conducting the usual business of libraries; purchasing and processing new books, discarding old books and putting books into the hands of as many readers as possible. Along these lines we have seen our circulation numbers increase 9% over 2008 numbers. Traffic in the library continues to rise. Through all the changes, many things remain the same. The library continues to run on the power of our long-standing and dedicated volunteers. Annette Lochrie continues to run a very successful Tot-Time program for children ages 2-5 and the library continues to be an integral part of the West Acton Village community.

Jennifer Friedman, Library Director

Trustees:

Nancy Lenicheck, Chair
Gerald Browne,
Ellen Spero, Secretary

Volunteers:

LyrI Ahern
Diane Bleau
Trudi Carson
Kaleta Fraizer
Corrine Merkh
Janice Rosenblum
Jo-Ann Spurr

Student Volunteers:

Margaret Conway
Amy Jiang
Neha Sundaram

CULTURAL AND HISTORICAL ACTIVITIES

CULTURAL COUNCIL

A. About the Acton-Boxborough Cultural Council

The Acton-Boxborough Cultural Council (ABCC), established in 1982, has as its mission to promote the arts, to help develop cultural programs in the Acton and Boxborough communities and to award and administer Massachusetts Cultural Council (MCC) Grant funds. Volunteers are appointed to the Council by the selectmen of each community, but it functions as a single entity undertaking these activities:

- Review of grant applications from individuals, libraries, schools, and arts organizations and awarding MCC grant funds to projects that provide a local public benefit. The ABCC is one of 329 Local Cultural Councils (LCCs) that are funded by the Mass Cultural Council through an annual appropriation by the state legislature;
- Sponsorship of cultural programs for the Acton and Boxborough communities using funds generously designated by Town Meeting of each community. These funds have been used by the ABCC to present jazz, classical, and world music concerts, vocal performances, films, opera, public art installations and more;
- Advocacy for the arts through community outreach and publicity.

The ABCC's activities take place from September-June; calendar year 2009 encompasses the second half of FY09 (January-June) and the first half of FY10 (September-December). This Annual Report gives details of our FY10 Grant Cycle in which we plan to support 28 individuals, schools, libraries and arts organizations using our MCC state funds. This report will also highlight the exciting events and programs we produced for our communities in 2009 thanks to the continued financial support from our Towns. It will summarize the findings of our community input survey conducted in September and October 2009. Finally, this report will illustrate our continued efforts to advocate for the arts on the state and local level.

B. ABCC Members

Acton:

Suman Adiseh,
Barbara Estabrook,
Nancy Gerhardt (retired June 2009),
Yanni Gou (appointed September 2009),

Greg Hutchins,
Anne Krinsky (appointed August 2009),
Padmaja Kuchimanchi, Rachel Lucas (retired June 2009),
Reshma Singh

Boxborough:

Frances Anderton (appointed November 2009),
Pascale Belin-White,
Mitzi Garcia Weil,
Pat Myers (retired June 2009),
Marion Powers (appointed July 2009).

ABRHS Advisory Board Members (non-voting):

Wendy Chen,
Maya Hardimon,
Skylar Harvey,
Nichita Kulkarni
Melissa Trimble.

Barbara Estabrook and Reshma Singh, served as co-chairs in 2009. Nancy Gerhardt served as Secretary through June 2009 and was then replaced by Greg Hutchins. Pat Myers was Grants Manager through June 2009; Mitzi Garcia-Weil and Pascale Belin-White, became co-Grants Coordinators in June. Mitzi Garcia Weil is Treasurer. . Publicity coordinator is Marion Powers. Suman Adiseh is Webmaster.

Acton-Boxborough Regional High School Advisory Board:

This program is in collaboration with ABRHS Student/Faculty Support Coordinator Kay Steeves. Our students actively join in our monthly meetings and participate in and support Council events. ABRHS senior Wendy Chen joined the Council in November 2008. We are very pleased that we are able to continue this program and those four ABRHS sophomores joined the Advisory Board in December 2009.

Recruitment:

The Town of Acton/League of Women Voters Volunteer Fair in winter 2009 gave Anne Krinsky of Acton the opportunity to express her interest and to learn more about the Council. Anne attended several ABCC meetings and events in the spring and took up an appointment in the summer of 2009 when Nancy Gerhardt retired after completing her second three-year term. Yanni Gou learned through contacts with the Acton Chinese Language School of our other Acton vacancy created by the retirement of

Rachel Lucas in June. Ms. Gou was appointed in September 2009. Marion Powers of Boxborough attended an ABCC event in March 2009 and subsequently, several regular meetings and special events. She was appointed to the Council in July 2009, replacing Pat Myers who had completed the maximum tenure of two three-year terms. Frances Anderton of Boxborough attended the September 2009 meeting and was appointed in November. We work closely with the Acton and Boxborough Boards of Selectman on our continued membership efforts.

C. Mass Cultural Council (State) Funding for FY10:

The ABCC is one of 329 Local Cultural Councils (LCCs) funded by the Mass Cultural Council through an annual appropriation by the state legislature. Each fall, we are required to distribute this annual allocation through a grant process. We receive applications for two kinds of grants: 1) LCC Grants that fund projects by individuals and groups; and 2) PASS Grants that help subsidize the cost of cultural field trips. We review each application and award monies considering the quality, originality, and creativity; planning, budget, and most importantly, community benefit of each proposed project.

At the beginning of fiscal year 2010 the ABCC was allotted \$6730, represents a cut of 21.8% from the \$8600 allocated in the previous fiscal year. All of the state's large councils received equal cuts. Some smaller councils did not experience such large percentage cuts because MCC guidelines require that no local cultural council receive less than \$4000 per year.

As usual it was a competitive grant season. We publicized the availability of grants through emailed and posted fliers and press releases in The Beacon and Action Unlimited and provided telephone and email consultation to several first-time applicants. Applications also were available at our staffed display table at the West Acton Oktoberfest. We received 44 applications requesting a total of \$31,205 in funding (more than four times the amount available). After very difficult and lengthy deliberations the ABCC has chosen to fund the 28 projects listed below for a total of \$6750. The final group includes several innovative projects from the public schools and the regional school district. For the first time in several years we received PASS applications, which provide subsidies for ticket prices to performances and museums for student groups. A group from Gates School will attend an exhibit at the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston, and a group of world language students from ABRHS will go to the Peabody Essex Museum in Salem.

Other recent grant-related activity included preparation of a nomination for a Gold Key award. The Massachusetts Cultural Council provides an awards program that recognizes contributions of artists and local cultural councils. Each local council is encouraged to nominate one of their grantees each year for Gold Key awards. The Acton-Boxborough Cultural Council has nominated the 2009 project "Re-Visioning Acton". This exceptional program involved numerous collaborations across the community and region including ABRHS student photographers, high school science fair participants and families, and the Town of Acton Planning Department. The project attracted hundreds of participants in three separate events.

FY 2010 Acton-Boxborough Cultural Council Approved Grants:

Applicant

Acton Chinese Language School
Acton Community Chorus
Commonwealth Ballet
Conant Elementary School
Concord Woman's Chorus, Inc.
Contemporary Arts International
Fitchburg Art Museum
Gates Elementary School
Gates School PTO
Harvard Pro Musica
Hudson Area Arts Alliance
Indian Hill Music
Janet Applefield
Linda Potter/ABRHS Drama Dept.

Project Name

2009 Acton Chinese Music Night
2009/10 Winter Spring Concert Season
A Little Night Dancing
In School Program Eric Carle/Mr. Seahorse
American Women of Note
CAI Grand Opening Events
75th Regional Exhibition for Arts & Crafts
PASS Grant Museum of Fine Arts
Amazing Hero Art
2010 Concert Series
Creative Opportunities for Audiences
Justin Meyer Swing Trio/ Boxborough COA
Combating Hate & Prejudice program at ABRHS
AB "Our Town" Photo Gallery Exhibit

Merriam School Community Fund
 Richard Clark / Acton COA
 Xixin Li, ABRHS World Language Dept.
 Robert Creeley Foundation
 Sargent Memorial Library, Boxborough
 Sargent Memorial Library, Boxborough
 Sounds of Stow
 Sriшти The Creation
 Starz N Lightz Inc.
 The Discovery Museums
 The Marble Collection, Inc. (TMC)
 Theatre III, Inc.
 Wendy Frank
 Wild Apples, Inc.

What's the Story/Mulicultural Performance
 Life, Language. Ernest Hemingway
 PASS Grant Peabody Essex Museum
 10th Annual Creeley Poetry Award
 Earth Rhythms: Stories for the Whole Earth
 Two Old Friends Songs from Ireland
 2009-2010 Concert Season
 Sarvam Shivam Rhythm of Life
 "Footloose" musical theater performances
 SMART (Science/Math/Art) Gals Night
 The Marble Collection Literary and Art Magazine
 Living History Performers Spring Show
 Music Enrichment for Special Needs, CASE
 Collaborative summer program
 "Wild Apples": Spring Issue 2010

D. Local Funding and Council-Initiated Events

Both Acton and Boxborough generously supported the ABCC with town funds via warrant articles and line items. The dedication of the Board of Selectman in both towns is truly remarkable. Acton funded the ABCC, through a Warrant Article, of \$2,000. Boxborough provided \$1,500.00 for exclusive use in Boxborough. Few local cultural councils enjoy this level of local support. We are extremely grateful and constantly acknowledge the support of our two towns to everyone. We are grateful also for the facilities support that the two Towns provide: meeting spaces, access to the town copiers, etc. In fall of 2009 the ABCC decided to reduce the amount of paper used in the grant review process and with the essential help of the Information Technology Department of the Town of Acton, were able to scan all 44 applications and provide online access to all Council members through the Town website. This saved thousands of sheets of paper and many hours of labor. We are also thankful for the continued support from our liaisons, Acton Selectman Terra Friedrichs and Boxborough Selectman Becky Neville.

The ABCC sponsored several exciting events in 2009. Details are below.

"Our World" International Film Series – February-May 2009

Following 2008's year-long festival of cultures called "Our World," the ABCC in 2009 presented a series of six acclaimed international films in collaboration with and presented at the Sargent Memorial Library. Librarian Maureen Strapko and Council member Pat Myers selected the films for adult audiences. Each international film was introduced by a Council member, in several instances a member whose heritage was from the film's country of origin. Simple refreshments from that country were also offered at some of the showings. Films were shown from Spain, France, Brazil, China, Russia and India.

A seventh event was added to the series, "A Short Night" featuring five short films and three of the filmmakers. Boxborough resident and filmmaker Todd Davis offered his award-winning film to the ABCC, and served as curator for the Short Night. All of the films shown in the international and short festivals were purchased by the ABCC for the Sargent Library's permanent collection. These film showings attracted a good-sized audience and we hope to offer a similar series in Acton in 2010.



A Short Night: From left: ABCC member and event organizer Pat Myers, Boxborough resident and filmmaker Todd Davis, Scott Kittredge, and Kristal Williams-Rowley.

FY09 Grantee Reception -- March 13, 2009

The ABCC held its 4th Annual Grantee Reception at Sargent Memorial Library in Boxborough. This annual reception provides a valuable opportunity for grantees to meet, to publicize their projects, and to network with other arts-minded individuals and groups. In addition to our FY09 grantees, our state and local legislators and officials were invited to attend. Each grantee received an official ABCC

certificate. Representative James Eldridge, Acton Selectman Terra Friedrichs, and four of the Boxborough Selectmen attended. Grantees performed, including the Acton Minutemen, ABRHS students performing selections from "An Opera Awakening" and "Classicals" giving a preview of their family performance at the Acton Memorial Library. Also we took the opportunity to thank and celebrate retiring ABCC members Nancy Gerhardt and Pat Myers, each of who completed the maximum six-year tenure on the Council in June of 2009.



Musicians of the Acton Minutemen, one of 17 grantees in 2009, played for arriving guests at the fourth annual grantee reception.

Second annual Family Concert event "Wildest Dreams" – June 16, 2009

The ABCC sponsored its second annual free family concert event at Goward Field in Acton, behind the Acton Memorial Library. The popular band "Wildest Dreams" played reggae, Calypso and Rhythm and Blues music; there were international craft activities for children, and local merchants sold picnic foods. This event drew a large and enthusiastic audience.



ABRHS Student Advisor to ABCC, Wendy Chen (left), designed and staffed a Chinese craft for the Family Concert Event.

Khelmel at Fifers Day, June 20, 2009

The Acton-Boxborough Cultural Council sponsored Khelmel, a program from India of storytelling, puppet shows, yoga and a block printing craft, at Fifers Day in Boxborough. This family event was very well received.



Khelmel storyteller and puppet stage with an attentive Fifers Day audience.

Tosca, presented by the Longwood Opera Company, – October 23, 2009

For the sixth consecutive year the ABCC assisted the Longwood Opera Company's performance in Acton. This year's performance of Tosca was fully costumed and sung in English with piano accompaniment. This opera was beautifully performed and captivated its audience.

Community Input Survey

All local cultural councils are required by the Massachusetts Cultural Council to seek community input every third year or more often. This fall the ABCC conducted a community input survey by two mechanisms: an online version through surveymonkey.com, and a paper version at Oktoberfest. Longwood Opera generously donated a number of tickets to their performance of Tosca, to be offered as an incentive prize for completing the survey. Eighty completed surveys were returned, and council members were asked to look over the findings during the grant review process, allowing them to keep in mind the expressed interests of the community members.

HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION____

The Acton Historic District Commission (HDC) administers changes to the exteriors of the properties located in the three historic districts located in Acton Center, South Acton and West Acton. The three historic town centers (approximately 180 properties) are protected from incompatible changes to their exteriors by the review and guidance of the HDC. Much of our town's historic character is held in our hands.

In 2009, the HDC received and reviewed 40 applications and several requests for preliminary reviews. Of the applications processed: the applicant withdrew three; the HDC issued four Certificates of Non-Applicability; (work was outside our jurisdiction), two Certificates of Hardship; five denials without prejudice (usually due to incomplete information); and the balance resulted in Certificates of Appropriateness (work will go forward as approved) or they remain in process.

The commission is proud of its record of cooperation with and counsel to those wishing to make changes to their properties in the historic districts. The HDC stands ready to provide expert advice and guidance to property owners in the districts. Please visit our website for the design guidelines <http://www.acton-ma.gov/index.aspx?nid=101> or email us your questions at hdc@acton-ma.gov. Each HDC meeting begins with a few minutes for citizen's concerns. Please come share your thoughts with us on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month at 7:30 PM in the Town Hall.

This year the HDC initiated its use of the town's DocuShare program, (the town's tool for sharing paperwork electronically) so that applicants and other citizens may review issues brought before the HDC. The rules and regulations for the HDC were revised at the close of 2009.

The HDC is charged with education, as well. The HDC joined with the Acton Memorial Library (AML) and the Historical Commission (HC) to jointly sponsor a lecture on the architecture of Hartwell and Richardson, architects of the AML. Walking tours of the historic districts co-sponsored by the HDC and the HC were enthusiastically received and well attended. Our thanks go to Kathy Acerbo-Bachmann and Bill Klauer for their efforts on behalf of the commissions.

The HDC is allowed by law to have seven regular members and four alternate members. We are seeking two full members and two alternate members to serve on the commission.

Members

Kathy Acerbo-Bachmann (Vice-Chair),
David Barrat, Alternate),
Terra Friedrichs, Alternate,
David Honn
Scott Kutil (Secretary)
Maya Minkin
Michaela Moran, (Chair).

ACTON HISTORICAL COMMISSION

The Acton Historical Commission was accepted under Article 56 of the 1969 Annual Town Meeting. The article authorized the town to accept the provisions of General Laws, Chapter 40, section 8D relating to the establishment and operation of an historical commission.

1. At its inception, the Commission determined that it is charged with the responsibility for the preservation, promotion and development of the historic assets of our town, including the compilation and maintenance of an inventory of these historic assets. The inventory has many uses such as providing local boards and planning agencies with the knowledge of historic sites in order that their preservation may be considered in present or future planning.
2. Another important function is the coordination of the activities of local groups, both public and private, which have a concern with, or involvement in, history or historic preservation. These may involve conservation, planning and historical organizations.
3. The commission may, subject to appropriation, prepare and print booklets, charts, maps, and plans of an educational or informative nature concerning history of the town or historic preservation.

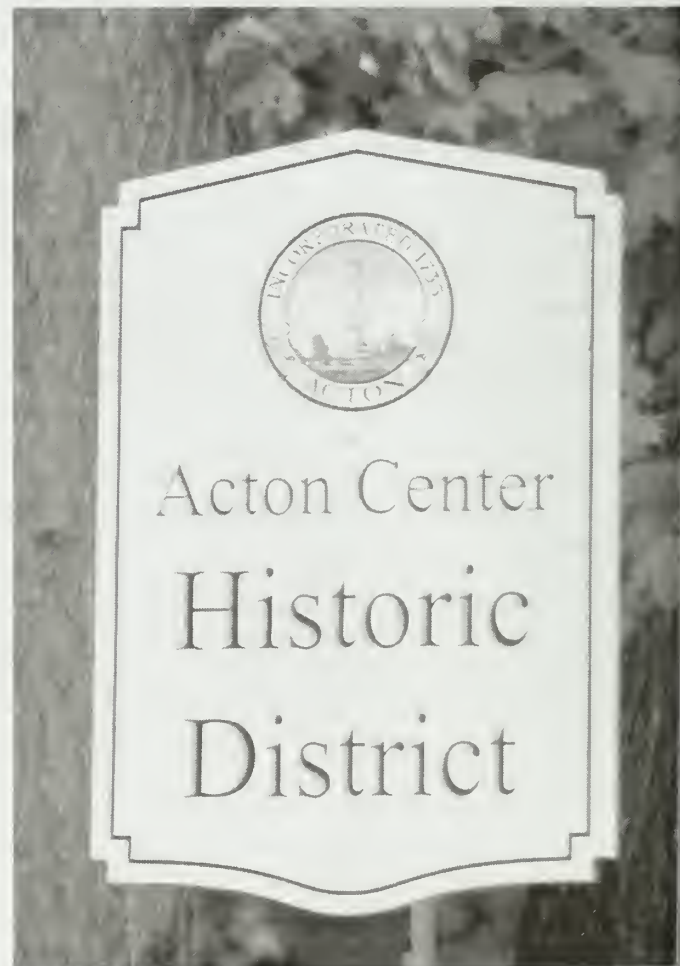
During the past 40 years, the commission has been involved with the creation and maintenance of the Historic Structure and Site Inventory, the nomination and acceptance of the Acton Center Historic District to the National Registry of Historic Places as well as the Faulkner Homestead, the Jones Tavern, Exchange Hall, the Hosmer House, the John Robbins House and the Isaac Davis Trail.

Along the way, we have worked with Iron Work Farm toward the acquisition and preservation of the Faulkner House as well as the Acton School Department and Acton Historical Society toward the preservation of the Hosmer House.

Early on, the Historical Commission noted the loss of many significant structures. A few of these were the Lake Nagog Inn, the house and barn at 495 Great Road, the Wheeler house at Great Road and Main Street, the Oliver/Baxter house and barn at 275 Great Road, the Davis house at 40 Davis Road, the two Smith houses at the intersection of Brook Street and several houses in the East Acton area. Other segments of Acton were also losing their historic structures as the town developed.

Recognizing that we had a limited number of early structures, we were instrumental in creating the Demolition Delay By-Law, it was first adopted in 1989 and most recently amended in 2009. In short, the Demolition Delay By-Law provides that the owner of a structure on the Town's Cultural Resource list cannot demolish it without due process, and after due process, the Historical Commission can delay its demolition up to 12 months so that options short of demolition can be explored to minimize the loss of our landmarks.

Since its enactment, the Demolition Delay By-law has been used numerous times. Our successes include the 1873 Daniel James Wetherbee house at 103 Great Road, along with the East Acton Station Master's House, adjacent to the Wetherbee residence. The North Acton residence of Isaac Miller at 737 Main Street is a more recent "save." At the 2009 Annual Town Meeting, the bylaw was amended to extend the time period from six to 12 months for those buildings that are on our list.



During the year we had demolition hearings for structures at 80 Hammond Street, 54 Great Road and the Testhouse at 56 Powdermill Road. The Testhouse was the former office of the American Powder Company and dates back to the Civil War. The present owner has offered it to the Town and this Commission has applied to the Community Preservation Commission for a grant to move and preserve a unique structure with the hope that it can serve a future need.

We have also been involved with preservation efforts for the Wright-Holden Farm House at 15 Mass. Ave., a structure familiar to anyone who drives Route 2. The structure has been vacant for a number of years and under the control of the Department of Corrections. A citizen's group has met with us numerous times to seek the means for its preservation and reuse. A Community Preservation Grant provided an updated inventory form for the State. We have nominated the property to be placed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Last summer, the Historic District Commission and Historical Commission co-sponsored walking tours of each of the three Historic Districts. These were open to the public and attendees included residents of the districts as well as members of Town Boards. Tours of some of other areas have been suggested for future events.

At the present time we are setting up a process, with the help of a concerned citizen, to promote the Town's heritage by making signs or markers available for properties that have significance to Acton's history or culture. Our goal is to coordinate these historical plaques with the observance of Acton's 275th Anniversary in 2010.

In closing, we would like to thank our former chairman, Peter Grover, who left the commission to spend more time with his family. During the thirteen years he was with us, he accomplished much to foster an appreciation in all the projects he was involved in. As an architect, he constantly offered suggestions to improve the appearance and function of the many buildings that we reviewed. I would also like to thank the commission members for their dedication and expertise in fulfilling their role.

The Historical Commission members:

William Klauer, Chair
Kimberly Connors-Hughes, Vice-Chair
Bradford Maxwell, Clerk
Victoria Beyer
William Dickinson
Anita Dodson



The Five - Foot Blue Dancer

CABLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Cable Advisory Committee serves to advise the Board of Selectmen in matters pertaining to Cable Television in the Town of Acton and to assist with license negotiations. We also accept complaints from consumers and work with the cable company to resolve issues.

During 2009, the Cable Television Advisory Committee concerned itself primarily with the renewal of the Comcast license. We knew that a major part of the negotiations would deal with the fact that Comcast would no longer be willing to operate the access studio. The Committee was happy to be able to complete negotiations with Comcast and present a license to the Selectmen for their approval on December 21st. The new license continues many of the unique features that Acton has enjoyed, including a state-of-the art fiber network for the use of the Town Government. We were also able to negotiate adequate funding for the new non-profit corporation, Acton Community Access Television, Inc., which will begin operation of the access studio on January 1, 2010. We expect this access corporation to dramatically expand the opportunities for citizens in the Town to carry on a local dialogue within the Town and produce quality local programming.

With the transition of long-time committee member and Chairman John Covert from the advisory committee to the volunteer Board of Trustees of the Access Corporation, the Cable Committee is looking for new volunteer members at this time. The committee will be an important partner with the access corporation in bringing Acton's cable access forward into the new environment. One of the key services the committee provides to the Town is the processing of citizen complaints relating to cable service. We maintain a relationship with the Government Affairs Managers for both Comcast and Verizon and elevate customer service complaints when citizens have exhausted the normal customer service channels. One important thing for citizens to recognize is that Cable Television service is almost completely deregulated, and the Committee is only able to assist the citizens by maintaining cordial relations with the service providers in the Town. License negotiation is a process of obtaining the best deal for both the service provider and the Town through mutual respect and good will, since both Federal and State Law require Towns to renew all licenses and admit all new service providers subject only to a determination that they are financially viable.

The Committee meets on the second Thursday of each month, and always welcomes Town Citizens to attend our meetings for any reason.

Members:

John Covert, Chair
Frits Riep
Maynard Brandon
Brian Costello
Michael Geis
Oleg Volinsky

DESIGN REVIEW BOARD

In 2009, the Design Review Board's third year, the Board was busy with project reviews, presentations to the BOS and reevaluation of our charter. The Board's mission continues to be the promotion of attractive, pedestrian-friendly development that enhances Town character, helps maintain property values and works to improve the 'look and feel' of our Town. Serving in an advisory capacity to the Board of Selectmen, the Board currently informs commercial and mixed-use developers of the Town's interest in attractive streetscapes. For further information, please see the Design Review Guidelines for Commercial Districts and our 2009 Power Point Presentation to the BOS which may be found on the Town of Acton's website (under Design Review Board, www.town.acton.ma.us).

In 2009, the DRB:

- Presented to the BOS in August, a review of the history of the DRB, the development of the Design Review Guidelines, examples of DRB reviewed projects and our goals for the upcoming year;
- Wrote a letter of support for its application for Community Preservation funding for the renovation of the Historic Windsor Building, a former fire station in West Acton;
- Reviewed twice a commercial renovation and expansion of parking at 253 Main Street; We provided guidance on architectural features and massing, landscaping, and site issues such as promoting direct pedestrian access and outdoor seating for this important commercial retail/restaurant site in Kelley's Corner;
- Worked with the architect of a proposed renovation for the retrofit of a commercial building on Nonset Path to a high-end flute factory on Rt. 2A.

- Reviewed twice submittals for a new day care center at 348, 350 and 352 Main Street, at the intersection with Rte 2. The DRB advised against the development as shown due to its scale, clear cutting, and the prominence of its location.

The DRB has the following goals for 2010:

- Redrafting our Charter to make access to the DRB easier for individuals and groups seeking (non-binding) advice about building, development and site planning; we expect to present this to the Selectmen and the Town in early 2010.
- Work on the Comprehensive Community Plan in support of Planning Board efforts as required;
- We will also hope to discuss ways of developing a clearer set of guidelines for project submission requirements for developer site plan review

The Design Review Board meets the first and third Wednesday of the month in Town Hall, generally room 126. Please drop in and join us. Our email is: drb@acton-ma.gov. The Board consists of the following members:

Ann Sussman (Architect), LEED AP,
Chair
Holly Ben-Joseph (Landscape
Architect), Vice-Chair
Chris Dallmus, (Architect), LEED AP
David Honn, (Architect)
Conor Nagle (Civil Engineer)
Planning Board Liaison: Ryan Bettez
DRB Selectmen Liaison: Lauren
Rosenzweig

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

During 2009 the Economic Development Committee, along with Town staff members and others including the Middlesex West Chamber of Commerce, worked to implement the revisions to the Committee's structure which resulted from the Committee's reorganization plan developed during 2008 and presented to the Board of Selectman in January of 2009.

The plan called for the creation of five "Teams" or subcommittees, which were focused on separate challenges. The Teams consist of the following: Research and Demographics; Marketing; Supporting Existing Businesses in Acton; Seeking New Businesses in Acton; and Develop-

ment. The Committee developed mission statements for each Team and proceeded to successfully launch the first three Teams.

The Committee has traditionally served as the place where businesses with development proposals that might be placed before the Town can come and share their ideas and solicit on how best to proceed. This important activity will continue unabated during 2010 as the Committee expects to have a voice in a number of economic development issues that arise during the year.

In addition to the foregoing, the Committee will sometimes become involved where an issue before the town has business overtones or would have the effect of altering our business development environment. This can involve the committee in discussions of zoning, development policy, signage, land use, etc. In those instances, the Committee is expected to coordinate with Town staff as well as other Committees such as the Planning Board. Acton is currently pursuing the next phase of its Master Plan, and the Committee has been tasked with providing information to the Master Plan process.

The Committee's goals for 2010 relate to completing the set up of the first three Teams and the launching of the last two. In addition, the Committee is seeking to deepen its relationship with the Chamber of Commerce and other business related groups in Town so that we can mutually leverage resources and focus attention on matters that will help to enhance the business environment in our Town.

This year the Committee will seek to expand its associate member roster and create permanent seats for its Team captains, but otherwise is not expecting any further restructuring to occur.

Members:

Doug Tindal
Nick Francis
Ann Chang
Leigh Davis-Honn, Planning Board
Chris Pappas, MWCOC
Nancy Dinkel, MWCOC

Associate Members:

Joseph Iannelli
Richard Calandrella

Selectman Representative

Terra Friedrichs

OUTDOOR LIGHTING EDUCATION COMMITTEE

OLEC has attempted to help with any lighting-related projects or concerns being conducted by municipal staff, and maintains a close connection with those responsible for running our town. We have provided help and guidance to various Town departments and residents over the past year:

- We discussed wording changes of the Acton Outdoor Lighting Bylaw with the Planning Department, which were proposed and passed in the 2009 Town Meeting.
- We provided help to the Town Enforcement Officer in interpreting the Outdoor Lighting Bylaw in a particular instance that involved a new Special Permit.
- We provided help to a Town resident in dealing with new lighting in a development that was adjacent to his property.

Over the past winter, the possibility arose of some type of reconstruction of the South Acton Train station parking lot by the MBTA in the near future. This would be a good opportunity to correct the parking lights that were installed about 10 years ago. At that time, the parking lot lighting did not comply with the 1984 Acton lighting bylaw, which called for fully shielded lighting. Over the years, OLEC has received some comments and complaints from residents about this. During any renovation the shielding of these lights as well as their high brightness should be corrected.

In June OLEC sent a letter to the South Acton Parking Deck Advisory Committee asking that any new lights installed adhere to the present outdoor lighting bylaw. The current situation is that the Acton plan for increased parking differs from that offered by the MBTA. OLEC requests that it be kept abreast of the resolution of the difference between these two plans, so that correction of the current lighting situation can be planned for.

OLEC also proposed that the Board of Selectmen decide whether they support the idea that the Town should follow its own outdoor lighting bylaws when building municipal or school projects. If the Board agrees that the Town should do so, then OLEC asks that this intent be recorded in a policy statement so that in the future the same type of mistake made in the South Acton Train Station isn't repeated.

The lighting installed at the high school parking lot about seven years ago is well shielded, but is much brighter than called for by industry guidelines, according to a measurement survey that OLEC conducted about three years ago as a part of a student-initiated energy project. OLEC has received a number of comments and complaints regarding this high level of lighting over the years.

In January, OLEC was invited by the Chairperson of the Acton School board to address the subject of outdoor lighting at one of its meetings. Subsequently, in February, OLEC held a meeting with J D Head of the Acton School building department, at his invitation, to discuss the lighting issues at the high school lot. This meeting was cordial but ended without agreement being reached between OLEC and Mr. Head as to the proper lighting levels that should be implemented in the facility.



Acton Minutemen performed on July 4th at NARA.

In keeping with its educational purpose, OLEC carried out many projects in 2009:

- Organized two Star Parties in Acton: first, with the Parents Involvement Project, its 8th annual Fourth Grade Star Party at Parker Damon building; second, with the Recreation Department, a Town-wide Star Party in November.
- Encouraged by several members of the Board, OLEC initiated and helped organize and execute the first Acton Earth Hour event, on March 28, 2009. Acton was mentioned prominently on the World Earth Hour web site.
- In March, OLEC Chair B. Kosicki was invited and delivered a well-attended talk on local lighting regulation to the Citizen Planner Training Collaborative, organized by UMASS.
- Conducted an educational table on Acton's street lighting retrofit project at a Town-wide Energy Fair that was held in June. OLEC proposed the retrofit project to Town management in 2008, and it was completed in early 2009.
- The Chair of OLEC was interviewed in front of Town Hall in November by local TV personality Mish Michaels, and this piece on responsible lighting aired on Channel 4.

During its oversight meeting in November 2008, the Board of Selectmen suggested that OLEC think about somehow merging with the Green Activities Board (GAB) in the future. OLEC has had discussions with the chairman of GAB about this idea. The result was that OLEC and GAB thought their programs, while overlapping somewhat, were sufficiently differently focused that a simple direct merging of the two organizations probably would not work well.

The Selectmen voted to dissolve OLEC.

Members:

Bernard Kosicki, Chair
Martin Graetz
Gary Green
Hartley Millett
Tom McDonagh
Steve Fienstein, Assoc.
John Coane, Assoc.

PLANNING DEPARTMENT

The Department provides technical, logistical and administrative support to the following Boards and Committees:

Planning Board (subdivisions, special permits under zoning, long range planning) Board of Appeals (variances and special permits under zoning, and 40B projects) Board of Selectmen (site plan and use special permits under zoning) Community Preservation Committee Economic Development Committee (see also the separate reports from several of these committees)

The Department also provided support for the Outreach Steering Committee helping bring to a close the Town's first phase of the Comprehensive Community Plan. The report is entitled "Acton Today.Tomorrow. Together – Emerging Vision and Goals for Acton's Future" (please visit www.actonoutreach.com). In a related effort, the Planning Department partnered with Tufts University for the Open Neighborhood Project, which was a unique opportunity to participate in an experimental hands-on community planning and design workshop using "Second Life" 3-D computer simulation tools with Kelley's Corner as a test site. The project was enhanced by a grant from the Acton Boxborough Cultural Council and participation by the Discovery Museum and High School students.

Other highlights of Department work are plan reviews and Board support for hearings on projects such as the Removal of Public Shade Trees on High Street to make room for a sidewalk (scenic road hearing), preliminary subdivisions for Lazaro Circle, Faulkner Mill, Isaac Davis Circle; various 40B projects (comprehensive permits for affordable housing developments), the proposed Next Generation Child Care Center on Main Street, and the West Acton Village Ecology (WAVE) Project; efforts to secure funding for the Assabet River and Bruce Freeman rail trails; reviews of multiple building and development plans for zoning bylaw and special permit compliance; and various zoning enforcement actions. All duties and work are carried out under the direction of the Town Manager

Planning Board

When reviewing development applications, the Planning Board strives to protect the health, safety, and welfare of all Acton residents – present and future, and to preserve the integrity of Acton's character. The Town of Acton Master Plan and Zoning Bylaw frame this aspiration. The Planning Board's authority to approve or disapprove development applications is also defined and limited by the State Zoning Act (MGL Ch. 40A), the State Subdivision Control Law (MGL Ch. 41, S. 81K-GG), and the constitutional rights of

and owners. In Acton, all commercial development filed under site plan approval is adjudicated by the Board of Selectmen rather than the Planning Board.

Members of the Planning Board are volunteers, appointed to 5-year terms by the Board of Selectmen. At the end of 2009, the Board's members are:

Ryan J. Bettez, Chair
 Jeff Clymer, Vice Chair
 Ray S. Yacouby, Clerk
 Gregory E. Niemyski
 Roland A. Bourdon, III
 Leigh Davis-Honn
 Margaret Woolley-Busse (Associate)
 Kim Montella (Associate)

Former members Bruce A. Reichlen, Alan R. Mertz, Ruth M. Martin resigned in 2009.

Planning Board meetings are open to the public, usually at 7:30 PM at the Town Hall (Faulkner Meeting Room 204) on the first and third Tuesday of each month.

Development Activity in 2009

The Board approved proposed subdivision rules and regulation changes, held two scenic road hearings, granted one sign special permit, and approved three preliminary subdivisions. 12 ANR Plans (Approval Not Required plans under Subdivision Control Law) were signed. Overall, the Board approved 17 new building lots, 16 for single-family homes and one for commercial use. The table below shows the ten-year history of approved new residential lots.

Year	New Residential Lots Approved
2000	33
2001	15
2002	103
2003	4
2004	8
2005	8
2006	30
2007	15
2008	25
2009	17

Zoning Changes

The Acton Zoning Bylaw is the regulatory blueprint that affects the future use and development of land in Acton. It is the intent of the Planning Board that the Zoning Bylaw and any changes to it are generally consistent with the Master Plan.

After holding public hearings, the Planning Board recommended and the 2009 Annual Town Meeting voted the following Zoning Bylaw amendments:

- To add Truck Rental as an Accessory Use in the Light Industrial -1 (LI-1) zoning district.
 - To exempt bike ways and walkways from the zoning bylaw,
 - To add building cleaning services to the existing building trade shop definition.
 - To clarify language in the outdoor lighting regulations.
- After holding a public hearing, the Planning Board recommended and the 2009 Special Town Meeting in June voted the following Zoning Bylaw amendments:
- Proposed new dimensional and parking regulations for child care facilities in residential zoning districts.
- Board of Selectmen – Site Plan and Use Special permits

In 2009, the Department supported the Board of Selectmen in their role as use and site plan special permit granting authority under the zoning bylaw. The Selectmen issued three use special permits (two for commercial recreation, one for a restaurant expansion), three new site plan special permits for a commercial building expansions and modifications on Great Road and Main Street, and four site plan special permit amendments. The Board denied one site plan special permit application.

Board of Appeals

In 2009, the Department supported the Board of Appeals in reviewing variance; special permit and 40B comprehensive permit applications. The Board of Appeals issued one special permit, is hearing two 40B comprehensive permit applications, and ruled on two petitions to review the Zoning Enforcement Officer's (ZEO) ruling.

Zoning Enforcement

The Zoning Enforcement Officer's (ZEO) duties included the review for zoning compliance of over 370 building permit applications, certificates of occupancy, and as-built plans. Proactive zoning enforcement focused on commercial signage. The ZEO issued over 100 violation notices focusing primarily on Kelley's Corner and Great Road. In most cases business owners sought to cooperate and comply with the zoning bylaw without the need for more forceful enforcement action.

Special Projects

In addition to these activities, the Planning Department has responsibility in advancing several public service and development projects.

Bicycle Lockers

Kim DelNigro oversees the bicycle locker rentals at the South Acton train station. In 2009, 33 lockers out of 40 lockers were rented for the whole year and several more were rented from month to month. This is a slight increase over the number of rentals in the previous year.

Rail Trails

The outlook for progress on the Assabet River and Bruce Freeman Rail Trails has improved despite funding shortages for needed transportation projects in the Boston region and the use of much of the available funding for several high-profile highway reconstruction and expansion projects, and bridge maintenance. After completion of the 10% conceptual design of the Acton/Maynard portion of the Assabet River Rail Trail (ARRT) and project approval by MassHighway, the Planning Department succeeded in placing the project in the regional long-range transportation plan with construction funding scheduled before 2015. This allows access to the more than \$1 million Federal earmark to advance to final design. Design work is expected to resume in early 2010. ARRT, Inc. (www.arrtinc.org) is a regional non-profit group that supports and advocates for the trail.



Following the completion of 25% design of the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail (BFRT) in Acton, Westford, and Carlisle in 2008, Concord also finished the 25% design stage in 2009. The four Towns have entered into an Inter-municipal Agreement for the Advancement of the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail. The joint application for \$1/2 million of Statewide Enhancement Grant funding has been approved. It will be used to advance the trail design in Acton, Carlisle, and Westford. Less favorable is the placement of the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail on the regional long-range transportation plan, where construction funding is not programmed until sometime between 2021 and 2025. The Friends of the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail (www.brucefreemanrailtrail.org) is a regional non-profit group that supports and advocates for the trail.

Roland Bartl, AICP, Planning Director

Staff

Kristin Alexander, AICP, Assistant Planner

Scott Mutch, Zoning Enforcement Officer/Assistant Planner

Kim DelNigro, Secretary

PUBLIC CEREMONIES AND CELEBRATIONS COMMITTEE

The Acton Ceremonies and Celebrations Committee would like to thank all those who have helped put together the ceremonies and celebrations for the year 2009.

On Patriots Day, Scouts and citizens followed the Acton Minutemen as they retraced the Isaac Davis Trail to the North Bridge in Concord. This was the 52nd anniversary of the retracing of the line of March. The Memorial Day Parade was successful again this year with bands from the Schools, Acton Minutemen, Girl Scouts/Boy Scouts, Little Leaguers and Veterans marching in the parade with Former Marine Staff Sergeant Harold Tinseth as the Grand Marshal. Veterans Day was observed on the Acton Town Common with Selectman Mike Gowing as the speaker. The Acton Minutemen presented the history of the Flag at this ceremony.

All these events were successful due to the efforts of individual volunteers and civic-minded groups that pitched in to help us commemorate the history of our community and our country.

The Public Ceremonies and Celebrations Committee need your help in planning these important celebrations. Please join the Committee and add your talents to our celebrations!

Gail L. Sawyer, Chairperson

RECREATION DEPARTMENT

The Recreation Department has two full-time employees, Cathy Fochtman, Recreation Director, and Maura Haberman, Events Coordinator/Administrative Assistant, as well as one part-time secretary, Cheryl Getsick. The Department manages 18 playing fields, two Community Gardens and 12 recreation areas. This year, Recreation offered over 175 programs and events for all ages. The size and range of Recreation's offerings is diverse in the hopes that all Acton citizens will find something to suit their taste. The Department offers classes throughout the year from arts and crafts, landscape workshops, Start Smart Sports Programs, field hockey, conservation walks, swim lessons, and more. A brochure is published two times a year listing the upcoming schedule. We are pleased to provide a variety of programs, facilities, and services to meet residents' recreation needs.

As it was for all town departments, 2009 was a fiscally challenging year for the Recreation Department. Programs offered by Acton Recreation such as NARA Youth, sports/arts/music classes, NARA Beach, community gardens, bus trips and the Summer Concert Series are self-funded through enrollment fees and donations. Recreation's 15-hour per week secretary position is also funded by revolving fees. If programs have low enrollment or inadequate funding they are canceled. Similarly, donations are an essential component of the department's funding, and they allow larger events like Acton's July 4th Celebration to remain cost-free. Despite the economy and with careful planning, the Recreation Department succeeded in continuing to offer a large array of programs and special events in 2009.

NARA Park, the crown jewel of the department, features a picnic pavilion/snack bar/changing rooms building, a 500' beach with swimming pond, a 3,000 seat Amphitheater with dressing/concession/storage room, a playground, seven acres of sports fields including a softball field, and a one mile-paved walking perimeter. It is also home to the Recreation Department's NARA Youth and Mighty Mini Summer Program. NARA Beach opened for the season on Friday, May 22nd and closed on Wednesday, August 26th. A total of 251 beach memberships (individual and family/group) were sold in 2009, and numerous day passes were sold each day. Certified staff also conducted Red Cross swimming lessons. The NARA Summer Youth program, for ages 4-15, was delayed one week because of a later than usual school closing date, but it ultimately ran for 8.5 weeks and served 351 children.. Enrollment was down about 1/3 from the previous year, most likely due to the broader economic downturn and one missed session week. The onsite Program and Waterfront Director was Jennifer Andersen.

NARA Park hosted numerous free concerts and events throughout the year. The year kicked off well with a highly attended Winter Carnival. Perfect weather was the backdrop for Poi Fire Spinners, skating, cardboard sled races, tractor and hayrides. The summer weather was a challenge, with record setting rain and cloud cover falling on many of the summer event dates, but there were nevertheless many well-attended, well-received events. For example, this year's Summer Concert Series was themed "Tribute to the 60s," and included bands like Beatles for Sale, Scooby Snax Band, and 60s Invasion at our 4th annual Beach Party Blast sponsored by Roche Brothers Supermarket. The Series concluded with the 2nd annual Marionette Show.

In May, NARA once again hosted the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life, an annual fundraising event. In June, Recreation assisted both the Acton Lions Club and Danny's Place with the relocation of the Acton Town Fair (formerly held on school grounds) to NARA Park. Danny's Juice Music Fest was held in conjunction with the fair to help draw more youth to both events. July 4th was estimated to have the largest turnout to-date with the best weather of the summer. NARA rocked with music from Facepaint and the Blushing Brides, "the world's most dangerous tribute to the music of the Rolling Stones". The fireworks were fabulous! Thank you to Donelan's Supermarket, Gould's Clothing, Cambridge Savings Bank, and Enterprise Savings Bank for their large fiscal donations to help fund this grand event!

In our continuing efforts to increase culturally diverse offerings, Acton Recreation hosted our first cultural special event, "Sri Lankan Day," which offered a great educational and cultural enrichment opportunity to attendees from Acton and the entire Boston area. It was extremely successful and was coordinated with members of the Sri Lankan Association of New England. Activities included dancing, music, foods, educational booths, cultural traditions, games, and great décor. In September, Acton Day's new farmers/artisans theme drew a large number of participants eager to partake in the festivities, which included live music, artisans, and farm produce and community groups. Despite the rain, those that braved the elements loved the new theme. And Monsterbash, the annual Halloween celebration, was held at the amphitheater with a large crowd of costumed youth dancing to a live band.

The NARA amphitheater received a new coat of paint and a wonderful improvement in the form of a changing room with attached snack bar. This serves the dual purpose of enticing more performers to come to our park while allowing the Recreation Department to supplement revenues with snack sales during performances. Recreation looks forward to working with theater and choral groups, as the

NARA Amphitheater facilities have grown into a wonderful performance location. In keeping with our goal of growing the ways that NARA gets used, we are in the process of securing proposals for a picnic pavilion (CPC Funded Project) and continuing to market the park to broader audiences, such as corporations looking for sites for picnics. NARA has been a host site for returning corporate outings for IBM and Monster and continues to permit picnic areas all summer long, with the demand higher than we can accommodate. NARA even hosted its first formal wedding in 2009!

The Acton Recreation Department currently manages and permits 18 playing fields used by leagues and teams including Acton Adult Softball, Pop Warner Football, Acton Boxborough Youth Soccer, Acton Boxborough Youth Baseball, Acton Boxborough Girls Youth Softball, and Acton Boxborough Youth Lacrosse. Field turf management is an ongoing priority and challenge for the Department for two related reasons: First, our town fields are heavily used and there is little chance for a "rest period," which is essential to the health of the turf. The School Street fields, in particular, are in need of repair, but our long-term lease on these fields has been delayed and, as a result, upgrades and repairs are on hold. Second, a viable system for funding field maintenance needs to be devised – one that places the responsibility equitably on the shoulders of our field users. In 2009, the Recreation Department explored possible funding models with the heaviest users, and will continue these conversations in 2010. Moreover, environmentally friendly field maintenance options will be explored.

In addition to our playing fields, the Recreation Department manages 12 recreation areas including six playgrounds and the TJ O'Grady Skate Park. We have focused on playground maintenance and upgrades in 2009. We recently completed a Playground Needs Assessment to determine the facilities with the most significant issues. The site on Elm Street (for which we have received CPC funding that is currently on hold while legal issues related to CPC funding in general are settled) is at the top of the list, as is Goward Playground (behind Acton Memorial Library). Some funding was available for moderate improvements to Goward, and the Department was fortunate to have the assistance of ABRHS seniors on Senior Work Day to implement them. All of the playgrounds have been assessed for safety, accessibility, and age appropriateness, and in 2010 the Department will seek funding to continue making necessary repairs and improvements. The TJ O'Grady skateboarding park continues to be well used and popular with Acton residents; we have had some problems with misuse of the parking lot, as well as with graffiti and vandalism on the site, but the Recreation Department is actively working with the Acton Police to ensure that it remains a safe and appealing destination for our youth.

Elsewhere around town, the Acton Teen Repertory Theater performed its final production – Thoroughly Modern Millie – at the Junior High School. (The theater program is now privately run.) The Recreation Department continues to work with other town departments to develop the Morrison Farm site. The community gardens program at the Farm has been very well received, and the initial number of plots available has been expanded to 36. It is also home to four additional plots: a children's garden, a native plant garden, community perennials, and a community corn plot. The Morrison Farm site is permitted only for organic gardening. And finally, the Recreation Department has been an active member in several health and wellness initiatives in the community: Recreation is a board member of Acton-Boxborough Coalition for Healthy Youth (ABCHY) and a member of the Health Outreach Planning Essentials (H.O.P.E.) Steering Committee.

The Recreation Commission has undergone changes in 2009. Most notably, long-time member and Chair of the commission, Ron Schlegel, stepped down. The Department and Commission are most grateful to him for his many years of service to Acton's recreation community. At the time of writing, the Commission has one opening for a full member and two openings for associate members.

The Town is very appreciative to the wonderful businesses that made all the community events possible and the many volunteer who made them successful! Your help and support is the vehicle to success for all events. Thank you!

The total in monetary donations received for 2009 events was \$35,025

The total of product donations received for 2009 events was \$15,911

Acton Day Donations: Cambridge Savings Bank, Comcast, Dunkin Donuts, Enterprise Savings Bank, Life Care Center of Acton, Pop Warner

Summer Concert Series Donations: Especially for Pets, AAA Southern New England, Acton Dental Associates, Acton Medical Associates, Acton Citizen (Anonymous), Acton Pediatric Dental, Adesa Concord, Barron Chiropractic, Boxborough Acupuncture, Dunkin Donuts, Enterprise Savings Bank Especially for Pets, Harvard Pilgrim Health Care, Holiday Inn Boxborough, James V. Tabner, Esq., Kitchen Outfitters, Legends Sporting Goods, Litchfield Plastering, Locke's Pest Control, Petco, Middlesex Savings Bank, Nashoba Family Dentist, Onyx Transportation, Perry Plumbing, Roche Brothers, Ruth Lull, PhD, Stonefield Farm & Greenhouses, Six Flags NE, Stop n' Shop Acton, Teamworks, USAF Band-Afterburner, Wayside Inn, Wetherbee Plaza

July 4th: Acton Toyota, Cambridge Savings Bank, Donelan's Supermarket, Enterprise Savings Bank, Dunkin' Donuts, Gould's Clothing

Monsterbash: 421 Gas Inc. (Sunoco), Benjarong, Donelan's Supermarket, Nashoba Valley Ski Area, Papa Gino's, Roche Brothers Supermarket

TJ O'Grady Skate Park Anniversary Event: Salerno's Pizza (Sorrento's), Acton Toyota of Littleton

Winter Carnival 2009: Boxborough Youth Baseball, Boston Bruins, Boston Red Sox, Cambridge Savings Bank, Dunkin' Donuts, Life Care Center of Acton, Middlesex Savings Bank, Stop & Shop

Recreation would also like to thank Beth Petr (Community E-news), Acton Family Network, Action Unlimited, Acton Boxborough Elementary Schools, Acton Beacon, Council on Aging, First Connections, Acton Memorial Library, and Danny's Place for helping spread the word on the many events and programs we run. We also like to recognize our colleagues at Town Hall: Natural Resources, Municipal Properties, Police, Fire, Health, Highway and Civil Defense have our thanks for their important contributions.

The Recreation Commission has undergone changes in 2009. Most notably, long-time member and Chair of the commission, Ron Schlegel, stepped down. The Department and Commission are most grateful to him for his many years of service to Acton's recreation community.

Cathy Fochtman, Recreation Director

Commissioners:
Karen Jarsky, co-chair
Kim Bodnar, co-chair
Frank Calore
Elizabeth Payne

At the time of writing, the Commission has one opening for a full member and two openings for associate members



Miss Emily's teaparty at NARA.

SENIOR AND DISABLED TAX RELIEF COMMITTEE

The Senior and Disabled Tax Relief Committee administers the voluntary fund established by the town several years ago to provide tax relief to seniors and others under state legislation.

Last year largely due to the downturn in the economy, we were able to help fewer individuals and provided total relief of \$8,500. The committee reviewed over 10 applications, several of whom received assistance from other sources, including exemptions under other programs. The committee works with the Board of Assessors to ensure that those eligible for other forms of relief are first served by those programs before being reviewed by this committee. In prior years the committee has been able to provide greater relief as the fund has carried a higher balance. Over the past two years, donations to the fund have declined significantly. We encourage any citizen of Acton to donate to this fund in any amount you are comfortable with.

In addition, other forms of tax relief are available for seniors and veterans. For example, the work program continues to attract a full compliment of volunteers who donate their time in jobs for the Police Department, various Departments in Town Hall and the Memorial Library. The Assessors provide outreach to seniors and others to inform them of the various programs available under the law that provides property tax relief. Feel free to contact the Assessors office if you have any questions about property tax relief.

Members

Peter Ashton, Former Selectman
Susan Miller, Board of Assessors
Carol Mahoney
Nancy Gerhart
John Murray, Town Treasurer
Brian McMullen, Assistant Assessor

TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC)

The following is a list of TAC work during 2009:

- Reviewed site plans as requested by Zoning Board of Appeals or Planning Board.
- Responded to residents' letters of concern on transportation-related issues.
- Developed a list of stimulus package projects and shared this list with the BOS.
- Considered participation in Massachusetts Area Planning Council's (MAPC) Regional Bike Parking Program. We identified some spots in town where new bike racks would be good, but we did not approach BOS to request installation. Had the Town installed the racks, we could have been reimbursed through this program for the cost of the racks.
- Hosted a table at the Green Energy Fair in May.
- Representatives of TAC and Commission on Disabilities (COD) met with the Offices of Michael Rosenfeld to hear about West Acton theatre/retail development.

Shuttle Program:

With the help of consultant Bethany Whitaker of Nelson Nygaard Associates, TAC developed a four-part transportation program.

1. Consolidate and centralize management of existing demand response transportation services (i.e., Council on Aging (COA) and Road Runner services)
2. Implement parking management strategies at the South Acton Rail Station by increasing per diem parking charges to market rates, improving parking collection techniques and incrementally increasing resident parking charges.
3. Implement a parking shuttle to South Acton Rail Station.
4. Implement general public dial-a-ride services during commuter periods.

TAC presented this plan for BOS approval at the Jan. 12 and Feb. 23 meetings. Representatives from TAC talked to stakeholders including: train commuters, parking lot owners, COD. Bethany then helped the Town submit an application to the Suburban Mobility funding program, administered through the Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC) and comprised of Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality funds. TAC met with the Finance Committee in March and April in preparation for Town Meeting

2009, at which TAC requested the 20% Town match for the Suburban Mobility funding. The request was granted with resounding support from Town Meeting. In April, 2009, TAC submitted the grant application. June 4 we attended a hearing before the Suburban Mobility Committee and later in June we were awarded the grant. Town staff and representatives from BOS and TAC also met with the Lowell Regional Transit Authority (LRTA) in June. In August, the Town put out RFP's for parking lots, transportation coordinator and service provider. In October, a qualified company was approved for the coordinator and service provider positions. Attending the interview and weighing in on this decision were representatives of Town Staff, BOS, COA, COD, and TAC. In November, the Town put out a second RFP for parking lots for the shuttle program, and TAC members called the lot owners to encourage them to submit applications. As 2009 closed, parking lot discussions were in progress and the Town awaited a signed contract with the newly organized Department of Transportation that is necessary before the Town spends the Suburban Mobility funds. As soon as a contract is signed between the Town and the DOT, we will be set to start the shuttle and dial-a-ride service.

In October, Acton sent a team to the Massachusetts Institute for Transportation Coordination. Franny Osman acted as TAC's liaison on that team. The following team members participated in the Institute: Mike Gowing, BOS; Jean Fleming, COA; Roland Bartl, Acton Town Planner; Franny Osman of Acton TAC; Lisa Franklin of Acton COD; Sarah Fletcher, Executive Director, Middlesex West Chamber of Commerce; Ken Estabrook, Chair, Maynard Planning Board; Elizabeth Hughes, Boxborough Town Planner; and Marcia Rasmussen, Director of Planning, Concord. Out of that conference a regional transportation planning group was formed which is being called the Minute Van group. The Minute Van group has met several times since October. One of the first goals of the Minute Van group is to see Acton's nascent shuttle program begin and succeed. The hope is that the four towns of Boxborough, Concord, Maynard, and Acton—and perhaps others in the future—can cooperate in solving local transportation problems.

Lowell Regional Transit Authority (LRTA)

Representatives from the Town met with the LRTA in June, October, and November about LRTA Road Runner service and how this service will interface with the new service supported by the Suburban Mobility program. Acton continued to be represented on the LRTA Board of Directors by local resident David Sharfarz. At the recommendation of TAC, BOS asked the LRTA to reinstate Monday and Friday service that had been provided by Road Runner in the past. This service was reinstated at the end of 2009 so that Road Runner is providing service five days a week again, as does the COA van.

Rail Station

TAC assigned committee member Jim Yarin to join and act as TAC liaison to the South Acton Train Station Advisory Committee that re-formed this year. Although TAC has not been involved in South Acton Rail Station development outside of the shuttle program, we certainly chat about it a lot. Two important issues rose for the Station this year: MBTA's temporary interest in building a parking garage with some Big Dig mitigation funds; and the upcoming Fitchburg Rail Line improvements, including double tracking and finding a way for train riders of all abilities to reach both tracks. When the Assabet River Rail Trail is completed, bicyclists will also need to cross. Train users continue to report a dearth of parking, a problem addressed by the forthcoming shuttle program.

Surveys

In 2008, TAC administered a comprehensive online transportation survey to assess transportation needs, which so far has only been partially analyzed. Selectman Mike Gowing met some people from UMass who offered to help us map the geographical data. Also in 2008, students from Acton and Boxborough, and some Council on Aging visitors, filled out paper surveys about where they travel and whether they have trouble getting places. The beauty of these approximately 3000 surveys is that they represent a complete sample of all Acton-Boxborough junior high and high school students. The hurdle is entering all the data. In summer, 2009, an Acton couple volunteered their Maynard office for two "Data Entry Ice Cream Parties" at which students and adults made a big dent on the data entry. Volunteer efforts to enter, analyze and map all this invaluable travel data continue; residents are encouraged to contact TAC if they want to help.

Taxi Voucher Program

Acton was awarded a grant in 2008 to start up this small pilot program as backup for the COA and Road Runner vans. In July, TAC met with COA, Planners, and Town Manager to plan implementation. The incoming grant-funded Transportation Coordinator will administer this program.

Members:

Franny Osman, Chair
Jim Citro
Michael Fisher
Bengt Muten
Jim Yarin

LOWELL REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY

The Town is a participating member of the Lowell Regional Transit Authority (LRTA) together with the City of Lowell and nine surrounding towns, including two of Acton's immediate neighbors Maynard and Westford. A Town resident appointed by the Board of Selectmen represents Acton on the LRTA Advisory Board.

LRTA was created by the Commonwealth in 1974 and is organized under Chapter 161(b) of the General Laws of Massachusetts. LRTA provides both local "fixed-route" and demand-responsive "Road Runner" services. The fixed route system runs Monday through Saturday primarily in Lowell and extending south into parts of Chelmsford and Westford. The system carries about 1.5 million passengers per year on approximately 40 buses running on 17 routes.

In addition, LRTA provides demand-responsive Road Runner van service in Acton as well as in Lowell and other towns. The Acton Road Runner is available by advance reservation on weekdays between 8:00 am and 4:00 pm. It may be used for any trip purpose including employment, medical appointments, shopping, recreation or personal business. Town residents who have a disability or are 60 years of age or older are eligible to ride anywhere in Acton and to selected destinations in Burlington, Concord and Maynard. Pre-registration is required. Additional information and reservations are available at (800) 589-5782 or on the Internet at www.lrta.com.

Town staff and the Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) are working cooperatively with LRTA staff to develop and implement plans to improve coordination of Acton Road Runner and the Council on Aging (COA) van that serves the Acton Senior Center. In July 2008, LRTA provided a new small bus to the COA, using Federal Transit Administration (FTA) and state funds to purchase the vehicle. Effective January 1, 2010, Road Runner service availability in Acton was expanded from three to five days per week with the addition of Monday and Friday service.

During 2010-11, LRTA plans to upgrade Road Runner scheduling and customer information systems using advanced vehicle location and radio communications technologies. These improvements will make it possible for the COA and Road Runner to make service better for customers, and to operate more productively.

David Sharfarz
LRTA Advisory Board



Sidewalk construction on Central Street.

PUBLIC WORKS AND ENVIRONMENT

BOARD OF APPEALS

There were two Petitions for Review to overturn the Zoning Enforcement Officer's determination. One was granted in full and the other granted in part. There were two 40B Comprehensive Permit applications; the hearings are still ongoing at the end of 2009. The Board heard one request for a Special Permit that was granted.

After twelve years of service as Board of Appeals member Cara Voutselas resigned. Adam Hoffman was appointed to the Board of Appeals as an alternate member.

Members:

Ken Kozik, Chair

Jonathan Wagner, Member

Marilyn Peterson, Member

Richard Fallon, Alternate Member

Francis Mastroianni, Alternate Member

Adam Hoffman, Alternate Member

BUILDING DEPARTMENT

New single-family dwelling permits decreased slightly from 2008 to 2009. Permits for residential additions and alterations increased. New commercial permits decreased. There were 19 new sign licenses and 22 special event sign licenses for businesses. As part of the Board of Selectman's policy, 59 banner permits for non-profits were issued.

There were 2,054 electrical, plumbing and gas permits issued.

The figures for the year ending December 31, 2009 are as follows:

Estimated construction costs

New residential	35	\$9,656,520
Residential additions & alterations	553	\$10,347,415
Commercial alterations	70	\$2,775,085
Demolitions	7	\$23,900
Total	665	\$22,811,920

CEMETERY COMMISSION

The Cemetery Commissioners oversee the operation of our three cemeteries. Forest Cemetery, located on Carlisle Road is approximately a half-acre and dates back to the beginning of Acton and predates the Town's incorporation. Woodlawn Cemetery on Concord Road has its beginnings in 1737 and covers about 30 acres. Adjoining this cemetery is Woodlawn Chapel, a gift in memory of Varnum Tuttle by his daughters in 1937. Mount Hope Cemetery on Central Street opened in 1848 and has about 40 acres and a small chapel that was the gift of George C. Wright in 1909.

Shawn O'Malley is in charge of the day-to-day operations with Allura Overstreet the secretary for the Department. Both of them are dedicated employees. Shawn continues a long tradition begun decades ago of keeping our three cemeteries in excellent condition. He is joined with three more personnel and some seasonal help in the summer. Allura has incorporated all internments into a data-base using the department card file system. This includes all internments for each of the three cemeteries and it may be an item that can be accessible on line at some time in the future.

We note that many citizens use the cemeteries for recreational walking and biking with small children. In addition, we honored a request to use the Revolutionary Section of Woodlawn Cemetery for the High School's play, "Our Town". On Halloween, Bill Klauer conducted a tour of the early section of Mount Hope as one of the programs for the Acton Recreation Department.

During the year we received memorial plantings to enhance the appearance of Woodlawn and Mount Hope. Jim and Tom O'Neil removed brush, small trees and trash that had accumulated in the cellar hole of the former Captain Robbins' house site, also located in Woodlawn.

Lack of adequate storage remains a long-term problem since it creates an unsightly backdrop to the adjacent cemetery lots in Woodlawn resulting in complaints. We continue to seek appropriate means of storage of the vehicles, mowers and other equipment that are used to maintain the cemeteries, all recreation areas, as well as the conservation areas. We hope to be able to provide a suitable building to shelter the town's property in the near future. Dean Charter recently signed a contract to get the Hearse House repaired so that it can be used for some equipment storage but it cannot house vehicles due to its small size.

In the calendar year 2009, we made fifty-two interments. Of these eighteen were United States veterans.

In the calendar year 2009 the sum of \$110,251.58 was paid to the Town Treasurer to be deposited as follows:

General Fund	\$51,801.58
Cemetery Land Fund	\$10,810
Perpetual Care Fund	\$47,000

In closing, we would like to thank Tom Tidman of the Conservation Department, Municipal Properties Director, Dean Charter, the Highway Department, the Water Department and our Board of Selectmen for their assistance throughout the year.

William A. Klauer, Chair
Brewster Conant, Secretary
Barbara Walsh, Commissioner- at-large

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

The Community Preservation Committee (CPC) is responsible for the administration of the Community Preservation Fund, the selection of projects for recommendation to Town Meeting for funding, and the monitoring of the progress of funded community preservation projects. By statute, Community Preservation Funds may be allocated to those projects that support the acquisition, creation, and preservation of open space, historic resources, community housing, and land for recreational use.

From the first funding round in 2004 through 2008 the Town benefited from a 100% State match for all locally raised Community Preservation Funds. Due to a decrease in revenue in the Massachusetts Community Preservation Trust Fund caused by an increasing number of cities and towns adopting the Community Preservation Act (CPA, M.G.L. Ch. 44B), Acton's 2009 funding round had to make do with a 68% State match. Nevertheless, Acton's Community Preservation Program continued successfully with its support and funding of worthy and eligible projects.

At the beginning of 2009, the Community Preservation Fund balance stood at \$1,526,849, plus \$1,020,000 in the community preservation open space set-aside fund. In April, Town Meeting approved funding from the Community Preservation Fund for eight projects, an additional set-aside for open space, set-aside money for historic preservation, and administrative costs, totaling \$955,155. A Community Preservation Fund balance of \$571,694 remained unallocated. The eight funded projects included

support for affordable community housing and for historic preservation for a total of \$427,075. An additional \$425,000 was set aside for future open space acquisition and protection, which brought the open space set aside fund to a new balance of \$1,445,000. To meet the minimum statutory 10% requirement \$44,000 was set aside for future historic preservation projects, and \$59,080 was allocated to cover the Town's direct and administrative costs for the CPA Program.

Several community preservation projects were completed during 2009, among them:

- preparation of the Massachusetts Historical Commission area form for the Wright Holden Farm off Wetherbee Street;
- restoration of the historic stone chamber in North Acton; and
- town-wide archeological reconnaissance survey.

In addition community preservation moneys funded ongoing projects and programs such as:

- new roofs at the Housing Authority's Windsor Green complex in West Acton;
- planting of 12 disease resistant American Elms along Windsor Avenue in West Acton's Historic District;
- archeological explorations and site improvements at the Wheeler Farmstead in North Acton;
- Acton Community Housing Corporation (ACHC) grants for closing costs and down payment assistance to five first time income eligible homebuyers of deed restricted affordable community housing units;
- ACHC buy-down assistance for two income eligible families to reduce the selling price of deed restricted affordable units that were on the market for re-sale.
- ACHC funding to support the Acton Housing Authority's purchase of a new 2-bedroom unit at Lalli Terrace for their low income rental program.

Visible progress has been made with exterior restoration work at Exchange Hall although no Community Preservation Funds have been expended to date. CPA funding has helped leverage a \$500,000 State transportation enhancement grant towards the final design of the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail, and a \$1,080,000 Federal transportation earmark for the final design of the Assabet River Rail Trail. To date, CPC funds have supported approximately 60 preservation projects throughout the community.

As of June 30, 2009, the Town had raised \$715,431 from the local CPA surcharge for FY2009 (unaudited) and in October 2009 received \$250,473 in State matching funds (35%). A bill is pending in the Massachusetts Legislature (SB 90) that would set a floor of 70% State matching funds for every community. Together with \$54,705 interest earned in FY2009, and \$571,694 that remained unallocated at the 2009 Annual Town Meeting, Acton's total estimated Community Preservation Fund balance available for appropriation in 2010 is \$1,592,303, plus the open space set aside of \$1,445,000.

In July, the Committee began the annual process of updating the Community Preservation Plan. This process included soliciting comments from community organizations and Town Committees, a public hearing to ascertain the needs, possibilities and resources of the Town regarding community preservation, and comments and suggestions from Townspeople and representatives of interest groups eligible for CPC funding. The Final 2010 Plan was published in September and posted on the Town website. It contains updated guidelines and information for applicants seeking community preservation funds.

On October 1, for the 3rd year in a row, the CPC held a workshop for prospective applicants. This session allowed potential applicants to get a glimpse of the application process, ask questions, listen to previous applicants' experiences, and gain a better sense about what constitutes a strong CPA funding application.

In November, the Committee received nine applications for funding in 2010, for a total request of \$1,196,100. The CPC is currently reviewing all applications and interviewing each applicant. The CPC will then deliberate and decide which project and at what funding level to recommend to the 2010 Annual Town Meeting. In its deliberations, the CPC will consider the applicant proposals, legal opinions, applicant interviews, input from Town Boards, including the Selectmen and Finance Committee, and comments from the general public.



Color table at Acton Library

The Community Preservation Committee generally meets every 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month in the Acton Memorial Library meeting room. All CPC meetings are open to the public and the Committee welcomes public participation throughout our annual process. Townspeople may e-mail the Committee at cpc@acton-ma.gov or contact the Town Planning office at (978) 264-9636 with questions, comments, and feedback. For additional information and to view the current Community Preservation proposals, townspeople may visit the Community Preservation page on the Town website at www.acton-ma.gov.

2009 CPC Members:

Jon Benson, Chair, At Large
 Walter Foster, Vice Chair, At Large
 Janet Adachi, Clerk, Conservation Commission
 Victoria Beyer, Historical Commission
 Roland Bourdon, Planning Board
 Mike Gowing, Board of Selectmen
 Susan Mitchell-Hardt, At large
 Ron Schlegel, Recreation Commission
 Ken Sghia-Hughes, Acton Housing Authority
 Corrina Roman-Kreuze, Associate
 Doré Hunter, Associate
 Roland Bartl, Planning Director, Town staff support

ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT

The Engineering Department provides the Town's various departments and committees with civil engineering and land surveying services. During 2009, the Engineering Department worked on the following:

Public Works Projects

- Designed and supervised the construction of intersection improvements at Main Street and Hayward Road, and Central and Summer Street.
- Supervised the construction of sidewalks on Central Street and Prospect Street.
- Continued work on the Main Street sidewalk
- Completed work on the Spruce Street sidewalk.
- Conducted traffic counts using the Department's counters/classifiers on Spruce Street & Taylor Road.
- Submitted Wetlands By-law filings for the Highway Department's annual road paving program.
- Worked with the Highway Department in implementing drainage improvements on Minuteman Road, Lincoln Drive, Algonquin Road, Conant Street & at the West Acton Fire Station.
- Continued sidewalk design work on High Street.

- Supervised construction of a water diversion project to supply water for NARA from a nearby quarry.

Special Studies

- Completed annual inspection report for the Transfer Station as required by the DEP.
- Assisted the Selectmen's Sidewalk Study Committee on various sidewalk issues.
- Assisted the IT Department with GIS implementation. Work will continue in 2010.
- Worked with the Town's consultants to prepare and award bids for the rehabilitation of five Town-owned bridges and the construction of a retaining wall on High Street. Work will be conducted in 2010.
- Worked with the Manager's Office to supply technical data regarding commuter rail parking issues for the South Acton Train Station Advisory Committee.
- Contracted for the survey of High Street between Audubon Hill and Parker Street.
- Contracted for the relocation of a stone wall on Taylor Road
- Submitted Scenic Road Hearing Applications for the stone wall relocation on Taylor Road and the Retaining Wall construction on High Street.
- Worked on the preliminary design & cost estimate for a low-pressure sewer system in the Tuttle Drive/Flint Road neighborhood.
- Met with the State and Federal Government for the FEMA flood map updates, 2010 Census Bureau update, and the MBTA proposals.
- Assisting the Selectmen in working on sidewalk issues in Kelley's Corner
- Assisted the Planning Department on the EAV Green project

New Development Work

The Engineering Department reviews plans and engineering calculations submitted for approval to various Town boards. During 2009, the Department reviewed:

- 11 new site plans, site plan amendments & special use permits for the Board of Selectmen
- five comprehensive permits for the Board of Appeals
- one new special permit for the Planning Board
- three new subdivisions for the Planning Board

The Department inspected construction on two new roads to ensure compliance with plans and specifications and also prepared road bond calculations for three roads.

Ongoing Duties

- Prepare amendments to the Traffic Rules and Orders
- Prepare maps and graphics for other Town Departments
- Prepare street acceptance articles for Town Meeting
- Maintain and update the Town atlas and other maps
- Maintain and repair the Town's four traffic signals
- Maintain, repair and collect the money from the parking meters at the South Acton Commuter Parking Lot
- Collect groundwater samples at the landfill
- Issue and inspect street curb cut permits (44 total permits this year)
- Review building permits (663 total permits this year)
- Review sewage disposal permits (112 total permits this year)
- Review "Approval Not Required" plans (12 new ANR plans this year)
- Manage the rental of commuter parking spaces at Martin and Stow Streets (Jones Field)
- Re-certified the Town's compliance with the Federal Railroad Administration's Train Whistle Ban Regulations

Resident Services

In conjunction with the Planning Department, the Engineering Department attempts to answer questions concerning flood plains, zoning, traffic signs, impacts of new development, property lines and a myriad of other topics. This Department maintains files of deeds and property line plans and makes copies for a nominal fee. This service is generally provided on a walk in basis, however making an appointment will assure the correct person will be available to answer your questions.

Bruce M. Stamski, P.E., Town Engineer/Director of Public Works

Staff:

Corey S. York, P.L.S., E.I.T., Assistant Town Engineer

Kim L. DelNigro, Secretary (shared with Planning Dept.)

Engineering Assistant I, presently open

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

SNOW

Last winter our crews were called upon 45 times to fully treat the road surfaces and we spot treated the roads 12 times. The department plowed the roads 14 times and scraped roads of slush or packed snow twice. The first snowfall arrived on November 17th and winter ended for our department with a last snowfall on March 9th. Total snowfall for our area was just over five feet. Between storms the Highway crew removed snow from intersections and cul-de-sacs to improve visibility. Acton residents are reminded that sand and salt is available at the Highway Department. Additional information regarding the town's snow plowing policy is available on the town web site.

ROADS

All roads, sidewalks and town parking lots were swept in the spring. Signs were repaired or replaced as needed and line painting of streets and parking lots was done. As time allowed, lawn damage from plowing was repaired. Pope, Carlisle, Concord and Nagog Hill Roads, and Central Street were milled, leveled and resurfaced. Oneida, Coughlin and Taylor Roads were resurfaced for the Water Department. Asphalt berms were installed in several areas where severe erosion was undermining road edges.

DRAINAGE

The Highway crew performed their annual task of flushing drainage pipes and replaced pipes as needed. In addition, several drainage structures were cleaned and repaired as needed. Beaver dams were removed under the direction of the Conservation Department. Culverts were installed on Prospect Street and Minuteman Road. Drainage improvements were made to the parking lot at the West Acton Fire Station.

SIDEWALKS

Sections of sidewalk were constructed on Summer, Central, and Prospect Streets..

SPECIAL PROJECTS

Under the direction of the Engineering Department and the Public Works Director, the intersection of Main Street and Hayward Road was rebuilt. As a result, the sight distance and safety at this location has improved. The Highway crew constructed a small parking lot at the S. Acton Fire Station and a small lot at the conservation area off Wheeler Lane. At the request of the Conservation Department, a siphon tube was put in place to access water from the North Acton Quarry to the pond at Nara Park to improve water quality.

TRANSFER STATION

The Highway Department operates the transfer station and recycling area. Refuse is accepted at our site and transferred to a waste to energy facility in North Andover. Leaves, Christmas trees, clippings and brush are accepted at the Transfer Station. Handouts are available at the gatehouse that will answer your refuse and recycling questions. Information is also available on the town's web site.

RECOGNITION

I would like to thank my assistant, Richard Waite and my secretary, Karen Switzer-Neff for their continued dedication and hard work. It is a combined effort to keep the Highway Department running smoothly. I also wish to thank all of the other departments for their help and assistance during the year. A special thank you goes to the highway crew for the many projects undertaken and completed throughout the year.

Russell W Robinson, Superintendent

Staff:

Karen Switzer-Neff, Secretary
Richard Waite, Assistant Superintendent
Kevin Farrell, Crew Leader – Highway
Carl Maria, Crew Leader – Highway
Donald Hawe, Heavy Equipment Operator
William Wilkie, Heavy Equipment Operator
Matt Miner, Heavy Equipment Operator
Ken Lane, Light Equipment Operator
Kevin Baker, Light Equipment Operator
Mark Fitzpatrick, Truck Driver/Skilled Laborer
Jon Bailey, Truck Driver/Skilled Laborer
Mike Horan, Truck Driver/Skilled Laborer
Charles Willett, Lead Mechanic
Sam Bell, Equipment Repair Person
Matt Lutinski, Equipment Maintenance Person
Robert Mallard, Crew Leader – Transfer Station
Craig Kellogg, Heavy Equipment Operator – Transfer Station

GREEN ADVISORY BOARD

The Board of Selectmen created the Green Advisory Board (GAB) in early 2009 to respond to the growing need to understand and engage in actively reducing energy use and greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions levels in Acton. Acton wants to be in a position to respond to increased regulation and rewards presented at both the federal and state government levels. The committee has worked closely with Dean Charter, Director of Municipal Properties, and JD Head, Coordinator of Facilities and Transportation for the Acton Public Schools and Acton Boxborough Regional School District.

The committee has aimed to be proactive since its first meeting in March 2009. Initial work began with interviews with JD Head and Dean Charter, because municipal buildings and the school campus, as large concentrated energy consumers, are areas that Acton can target to immediately reduce energy use and GHG emissions. The committee has been impressed with the level of management and energy efficiency work that is ongoing in these areas. The GAB looks forward to continuing to interact with these departments to further increase energy efficiency and reduce Acton's GHG emission levels.

In the late spring, the Massachusetts Green Communities Act (GCA), enacted in 2008, required that the GAB direct its attention to understanding the implications of the Act's requirements and how the Town could respond in a manner that was favorable for Acton. The intent of the GCA is to support and encourage Massachusetts's municipalities to make a commitment to energy efficiency and renewable energy. The state will provide technical and financial assistance toward this goal by awarding \$10 million annually in grant money to municipalities that have met the Green Communities qualifications. Work to meet the qualifications of the GCA has been the focus of the GAB's work. It has included the following:

- Introduced a warrant article at the June Town Meeting to allow the leasing of municipal and school building rooftops for solar installations. The warrant article passed.
- Participated actively in the siting of and Request for Proposals (RFP) for the location of solar photovoltaic (PV) installations on schools and municipal properties. Over the summer the Board assisted in identifying appropriate sites for solar PV installations and reviewing responses to RFPs. A site at the Highway Department has been selected for the installation of a 75 kW array, and a total of 300 kW is being installed on school roofs, distributed between three schools (Acton Boxborough Regional High School, R.J.Grey Junior High School and Douglas Elementary School). Acton will benefit from clean and lower cost electricity as a result. These installations will save the Town of Acton approximately \$23,000 in their first year of operation, and are expected to produce similar or greater savings annually over the next 25 years.
- Investigated different methodologies for determining Acton's energy use and GHG footprint. It was determined to initiate the process using the Energy Portfolio Manager software, which is supported by the Environmental Protection Agency. Dr. Ihab Farag and Jim Potter from UNH have assisted with the process of gather-

ing and collating energy use data, and entering back data into the Portfolio Manager software in order to establish an energy use benchmark for the town. Training will be provided to the GAB and town employees, and the Energy Portfolio Manager will continue to be used to provide a standard method of collecting energy data from the municipal and school buildings.

- Presented the Stretch Code to the Board of Selectmen. The Stretch Code is an appendix of the Massachusetts building code that provides a more energy efficient option for towns and cities than the basic building code.

In the coming year the Board will continue to work on meeting the requirements of the Green Communities Act, and reducing Acton's energy use and GHG emissions.

Members:

Chris Schaffner and Kate Crosby – Co-chairs
Eric Hudson
Tom Michelman
John Ravis
Mary Smith

Associate members:

Terry Lindgren
Carol Holley (Ms. Holley resigned)
Dennis Loria

BoS Liaison

Terra Friedrichs was the initial liaison
Paulina Knibbe

Staff Liaison

John Murray

LAND STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

The Land Stewardship Committee is a volunteer committee responsible for the care of almost 1700 acres of Acton's conservation lands. Most of this work is outside: patrolling the trails, blazing trails with paint, widening the trails when they grow narrow, removing blow downs, mowing meadows, installing and repairing bridges, walkways and kiosks, supplying maps to kiosk map boxes, removing trash, cleaning up from vandalism, and noticing and reporting major encroachment issues to the Conservation Commission and town staff.

We rely on the support of many additional volunteers in addition to the work of the sworn-in committee members. In 2009, volunteers helped with trail cutting, boardwalk construction, wood-chip placement, and invasive plant removal. We also had new volunteers, not sworn in as

committee members, acting as stewards of some of our parcels – this is a experiment that has worked well. We had large and vigorous crews of young people this year, during the Spring Senior service day, and the Junior High Green team service day. The staff at Eastern Mountain Sports in Acton took a day to build and install a 12-foot boardwalk at Nagog Hill Conservation Land.

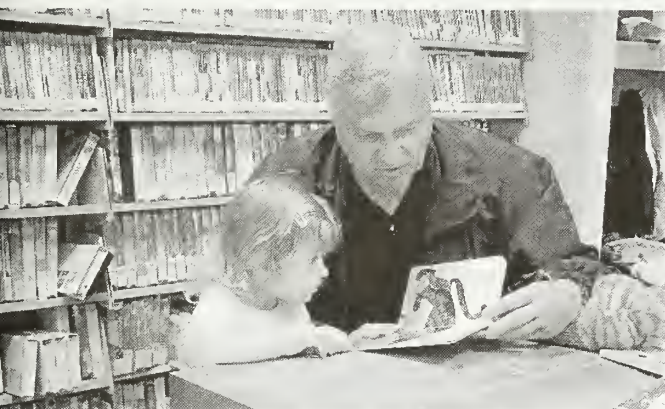
Volunteers were also key to the fourth year of a multi-year project to pull invasive Garlic Mustard plants at Nashoba Brook, the Arboretum, and other locations. The committee also continued a multi-year manual-control effort of Japanese knotweed at the Canoe Launch, by mulching and frequent cutting. The removal of oriental bittersweet, multi-flora rose, and other invasive plants continues on an ad hoc basis during other trail maintenance activities.

Committee members helped advise Eagle Scout candidate Brian Chen who completed a 40 foot boardwalk at Nagog Hill Conservation Land.

We supported the efforts of our former chair, Linda McElroy, to continue the development of the Trail Through Time, intended to highlight a path over new and existing trails that will take people through historic spots in the conservation areas of North Acton and beyond. The initial target sites are the stone chamber at Nashoba Brook and the Wheeler Farm site at the end of Wheeler Lane. Work at both sites was supported by grants from Community Preservation Act funds and many enthusiastic volunteers.

Meadows are an important wildlife habitat that are endangered in New England. We continued our efforts to maintain this habitat by modifying some of our mowing schedules to cut in some places only once every two years to increase our inventory of taller grasses. We also widened some meadows back to historical stone-wall bounds at Heath Hen Meadow and Grassy Pond Conservation Lands, while making sure to maintain mixed 'edge' habitat.

We cleared and blazed a loop trail in the Pacy Land, providing walking access between Tupelo Way and Central Street opposite Martin Street.



The full-color Acton trail guidebook is available at Town Hall, Acton EMS, Butter Brook Organic Farm, and Pedal Power Bike & Ski. Individual maps are available at our website, <http://www.actontrails.org>. To learn more about the committee and the conservation lands we maintain, or to volunteer, visit our website or email us at lsc@acton-ma.gov, or come to one of our open monthly meetings on the third Wednesday of each month at 4 PM at Town Hall. We'd love to have your help.

Land stewards for part or all of 2009:

Bettina Abe
Charlie Carlson
Joan Cirillo
David Cochrane
Andy Gatesman
Bob Guba
Maura Herlihy
Philip Keyes
Peggy Liversidge
Nan Towle Millett
Rich Rhode
Ann Shubert
Jim Snyder-Grant
Laurie Ullmann
Paul Wasserboehr

MUNICIPAL PROPERTIES _____

The Municipal Properties Department discharges the following duties:

1. Design, construction, maintenance, utilities, and management of all Town buildings, except those controlled by the School Department.
2. Development and maintenance of the Town Common, roadsides, and landscaped areas.
3. Management of street trees as provided in MGL Chapter 87, and management of Public Nuisances related to shade trees, as provided in MGL Chapter 132.
4. Technical expertise as needed for site plan and subdivision reviews and inspections.
5. Assistance to other departments as needed in the areas of purchasing, land management and construction.

Vegetation Management

This year 216 dead or dangerous street trees were removed, 62 street trees were pruned to reduce hazards, and 130 stumps that presented traffic hazards were ground out below grade. A total of 130 trees were removed for the Prospect Street, High Street, and Main Street sidewalk projects.

Replacement plants were provided as needed for the Prospect Street sidewalk project, the Spruce Street sidewalk project, and the Hayward and Main intersection project. Twelve disease-resistant Elm trees were planted on Windsor Avenue as the first phase of the Community Preservation Act funded "Historic Streetscape Restoration Project". Other trees were planted around the Town Common.

There are now over fifty miles of subdivision streets in town, many of them over forty years old. As the tree stock in these subdivisions mature, limbs and whole trees start to encroach into the right-of-way, blocking intersections and impeding the passage of larger vehicles, such as school buses. Pruning back this growth has become an increasing workload for the Department, and this work will increase as the plantings in newer subdivision mature. There are now over thirty miles of sidewalks in town. Trimming back the vegetation along these sidewalks is also a large workload for the Department.

Approximately 50 miles of road shoulder were mowed with the side arm mower or brush hog. Poison Ivy growing in several landscape areas was sprayed with a selective herbicide.

The Department responded to storm related tree damage calls on eight occasions.

There are three areas of concern regarding invasive alien insect infestations. The imminent major concern is the Asian Longhorned Beetle, which can cause extensive heartwood damage and structural failure of hardwood species. This insect originates in China, and has been imported in wood dunnage such as freight pallets. During the winter a total of 26,000 trees were removed in Worcester, Massachusetts. As of this point state and federal officials have established a seventy-four square mile regulated area in order to try to control the insect's spread. The Tree Warden has attended workshops on the insect, and has been actively scouting for the insect in the Acton area. Fortunately, at this point, it has not been discovered in Middlesex County.

Hemlock Woolly Adelgid is a concern for home landscapes and conservation areas. This is an invasive alien insect, introduced into North America from Asia. This suck-

ing insect infests Canadian Hemlock (*Tsuga canadensis*), and almost always leads to the death of the tree within three to five years, if left untreated.

The third major concern is the Winter Moth, again an invasive alien species that was imported into Plymouth County, most likely on nursery stock from Nova Scotia. The caterpillar stage of this insect hatches in very early spring, and has caused near total defoliation of hardwood forests in southeastern Massachusetts. There were many adult moths observed in November, so it appears that the moth is now well established in Acton. State and Federal officials have been rearing and releasing parasites to control the Winter Moth, but we will see some defoliation in Acton over the next few years until the parasites catch up.

All subdivisions, cluster developments, and commercial site plans were reviewed for compliance with local landscaping standards.

Facilities Projects

There were a number of repairs and upgrades in our public buildings in 2009:

At Town Hall, the underground heating oil tank was removed, and the air handler on the ground floor was replaced. The combination of a new boiler and insulation in the attic at Town Hall, which was listed in last year's annual report, resulted in a 30% reduction in the cost of heating the building in the first full year of operation.

The retrofit of the streetlights, which was completed at the very end of 2008, has, as predicted, yielded a substantial savings in electricity, and due to the improved fixtures, the number of resident complaints about off target lighting and excessive glare has been reduced to zero.

At Fire Station 2 (South Acton) three exterior passage doors were replaced.

At Woodlawn Cemetery, the oil burner was replaced, and the Hearse Shed was repaired.

At the Senior Center, new composition flooring was installed in the "living room", which greatly enhances both the safety and flexibility of the room.

The building at 468 Main Street (red bungalow next to Town Hall), which was purchased at the 2007 Annual Town Meeting, was rehabilitated, and now serves as the office for the Municipal Properties Department, freeing up space in Town Hall for other departments.

At the Public Safety Facility, new HVAC controls were installed, which both saved energy and improved the comfort level of the building.

The April, 2008 Annual Town meeting approved \$119,000 in Community Preservation Funds for the historic restoration of the West Acton Citizens' Library. This work has now been completed, and \$34,913 of the original appropriation has been returned to the Community Preservation Fund.

The Director took over the procurement process to accomplish the CPA funded restoration of the Fitzgerald Piano. That work is now complete, and the piano resides at the Memorial Library.

The Department oversees a variety of vacant buildings, including 17 Woodbury Lane, 8 Piper Lane, Morrison Farm, and the Towne Building. These structures present a substantial liability for the Town. Long term planning is required on the policy-making level to decide how to use or dispose of these structures.

A proposal for the historic preservation of the exterior of the Windsor Building (originally the West Acton Fire Station, more recently the Food Pantry) has been submitted to the Community Preservation Committee. Applications have also been submitted for historic preservation (window restoration) on the original portion of Town Hall and the Municipal Properties office at 468 Main Street.

All members of the Department received additional training as needed to maintain licenses and certifications.

In closing, I would like to thank the various civic organizations, volunteers, and Town departments who have assisted this Department in the past year. As always, a great deal of credit should be given to the hard work and dedication shown by the Municipal Properties staff:

Dean A. Charter, Municipal Properties Director & Tree Warden

Staff:

John Fleming, Building Maintenance

Steve Gray, Building Maintenance

Brian Kissane, Groundskeeper

Dayle MacGillivray, Building Maintenance Crew leader

Malcolm MacGregor, Grounds Crew Leader

David Porter, Seasonal Groundskeeper

Andrea Ristine, Secretary

Patrick Rooney, Groundskeeper

David Theriault, Building Maintenance

NATURAL RESOURCES

Two thousand and nine was another full year for the Natural Resources Department tasked with maintaining Acton's cemeteries, conservation lands, and recreation areas. In addition to our routine responsibilities, the department accepted the added tasks of:

- Developing 12 new garden plots to augment the 24 existing at the Morrison Farm
- Construction of the new multipurpose building at the NARA Amphitheater and
- Assisting in the development of the Charlotte Sagoff Memorial Garden

In 2009, the Conservation Commission reviewed 24 Notices of Intent and 20 Request for Determination filings. One of the highlights for the Commission was the review of a proposed 40B development off High Street, where many innovative stormwater treatment measures will be used.

Retiring from the Commission this past year were long-time Commissioners Julia Miles and Linda Serafini; their contributions to the protection of Acton's natural environment were greatly appreciated and will be missed.

Thanks to the hard work of the Natural Resources crew, 12 additional 25' X 33' garden plots were prepared for public use at the Morrison Farm. These additional community gardens represent the continuation of the first phase of community farm development, as outlined in the Morrison Farm Re-Use Report completed in 2007. Demand for organic garden plots continues to grow; in addition to the community gardens, a children's garden and a Native American garden were developed as well. Thanks to the efforts of an Eagle Scout working with the Natural Resources crew, a wonderful orchard was established in the Morrison farm field. The Morrison Farm Feasibility and Preliminary Design Study has been awarded for the review of the future use of the house and barn along with property use options; a public presentation and final report is anticipated in the spring of 2010.

Programming and park development at NARA continues to expand, and along with it, the involvement of the Natural Resource Department. Our crew under the supervision of a licensed general contractor built a new change-room/storage building at the stage this year. This multipurpose building was completed in time for the 2009 summer season. This was the first year that NARA Park hosted the annual Lion's Club Fair, along with the 'Danny's Juice' music festival.

Natural Resources continued to play an active role in Acton's schools. The Natural Resources Director, Tom Tidman, donated many hours working both in the elemen-

tary school classroom; leading nature walks at the Acton Arboretum and with the High School Environmental Club. This year the Natural Resources Director spent more than twenty hours teaching environmental classes in each of Acton's five elementary schools.

This was another active year at the Arboretum, with several large weddings, numerous nature walks and the completion of the 'fragrance garden'. In addition, improvements were made to our boardwalk system, now approaching twenty years in age. A sub-committee of volunteers and town staff was created to continue work on the development of a comprehensive Arboretum Master Plan. Natural Resources staff was also involved in the continued effort to update the town's Open Space and Recreation Plan.

As always, volunteers play an irreplaceable role in supporting the many projects overseen by the Natural Resources Department. First and foremost, our Land Stewardship Committee and the Friends of the Acton Arboretum must be recognized for their contribution of literally thousands of man-hours to the care and upkeep of our many public lands. Thank-you volunteers, we couldn't do it without you!

Tom Tidman,
Director of Natural Resources

Members Conservation Commission
Terrence Maitland, Chair
Janet Adachi, Vice Chair
Julia Miles
Linda Serafini
Frances Portante
Patty Lee
William Froberg
Toros Maksoudian
Toni Hershey (associate)
Jim Snyder-Grant (associate)

OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE _____

The Open Space Committee was re-established in 2005 and is responsible for evaluating open space preservation opportunities, acting as an advocate to town boards, and keeping the public informed about progress made in implementing the goals of the Open Space and Recreation Plan as well as updating the plan on a periodic basis. Specifically, the Committee advises various Town Boards on land acquisition and protection opportunities, including assessment of lands associated with Article 61 and 61A offerings, land-set asides, and land gifts or defaults to the Town. Members of the Committee attended an informa-

tion session this year on changes in the law and process relating to how Article 61 land may be offered to the town. This has proven both timely and helpful as we are currently evaluating one such offer.

The Committee also acts as the municipal liaison with individuals and land protection advocacy groups and land conservation trusts active in the preservation of open space. We would especially like to thank the Sudbury Valley Trustees and the Acton Conservation Trust for invaluable assistance in working on several potential land acquisition opportunities. Finally, we have acted as the sponsor for specific open space protection proposals.

During the past year the Open Space Committee has been working with several landowners who have indicated a possible interest in either selling land to the town, or having the town buy a conservation restriction for the property that would protect the land as open space. This work involves frequent meetings with landowners, commissioning of appraisals, as well as other work associated with understanding the landowners' needs and the nature of the preservation opportunity. By the end of the year, one parcel appears very close to being brought to the town as a potential purchase, using CPA funds. The work with other landowners is ongoing and will hopefully lead to other land preservation opportunities being brought to the town.

The Committee continues to update the Open Space and Recreation Plan and is also assisting in the development of the Comprehensive Community Plan. Among other things, this process involves the prioritization of various parcels in town for preservation and protection. In addition, the Committee reported on the results of the survey it conducted of residents regarding open space and recreation priorities. Over 15% of households in town responded to the survey and the results indicated that land preservation, including the purchase of open space by the town was a high priority among respondents. Respondents also placed hiking trails, bike trails and conservation lands as top priorities among recreation needs.

Members:
Peter Ashton, Chair
Karen O'Neil, Clerk
Andy Magee
Jane Ceraso
Dick Hatfield
Charles Carlson
Jeff Clymer
Terry Maitland
Tom Tidman – Conservation Director

WATER RESOURCES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Water Resources Advisory Committee (WRAC) worked diligently in developing a draft Discharges to the Municipal Storm Drain System Bylaw. As part of the requirements of the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System, each community must implement regulations that control discharges to their storm-water system. By year's end a draft had been finalized and reviewed by Town Counsel. Prior to Annual Town Meeting the WRAC will solicit comments from the public and the Towns Boards, Committees and Departments. The final draft, which will take into consideration all comments either through edits or answers will be submitted to Annual Town Meeting for approval as a Town Bylaw.

Members:

Ron Beck, Chairman

Barry Rosen,

Carol Holley,

Helen Probst

Michael Kreuze

Justin Snair, Health Department

Matt Mostoller, Water District.



ANIMAL INSPECTOR

During the past year, 52 animals were quarantined for rabies. The animal quarantines consisted of 31 dog bites and six cat bites. Additionally, 15 domestic animals were quarantined for possible exposure to rabies from wildlife other than domestic animals. All animals involved in bite incidents were quarantined for the state mandated period of time necessary to determine that the animal was free of the rabies virus.

Four animals were submitted to the state laboratory for rabies testing and all had negative test results for rabies.

During the yearly barn inspection six barns in Acton were inspected and all were found to be in order. From the barn inspection census, farm animals number 75 horses and ponies.

Patrick H. Palmer, Animal Inspector

BOARD OF HEALTH

For the first time in decades the nation, state and town had to respond to a potential pandemic. In April of this year the first cases of H1N1 (Swine Flu) were identified in the US. Based on the presence of these cases the Health Department and School Department began monitoring school absences and strategizing appropriate counter-measures to any potential incidences within the school system. From April through to the school's closing, three cases of H1N1 were identified within the school population. As part of the effort to contain the spread of the virus two elementary schools were closed for one day prior to the Memorial Day weekend.

The Board of Health also promoted and advertised precautionary measures that citizens should consider:

- Washing hands often with soap and water, especially after coughing or sneezing,
- Practicing good "cough etiquette" by coughing or sneezing into a tissue, or into your elbow instead of your hands,
- Avoiding close contact with sick people and if you get sick, staying home from work or school, consulting your physician and limiting contact with others.

In November Acton began receiving limited amounts of H1N1 vaccine from the Massachusetts Department of Public Health. By the year's end enough vaccine had been received to conduct clinics for pre-school children, kindergarten to 3rd grade, 4th grade through 6th grade and for young adults, 18 years of age to 24. The Acton Public School and Acton/Boxborough Regional School nurses held the clinics for the kindergarten through the 6th grade with the Acton Public Health Nursing Service, Acton Health Department and the Acton Medical Reserve Corps assisting. In addition the public school nurses conducted classroom clinics for grades 7-12. The Acton Public Health Nursing Service with the Acton Health Department and the Acton Medical Reserve Corps assisting conducted all other clinics.

Other highlights for the Board were:

- Hiring a Community Services Coordinator
- Town Meeting warrant articles of the Sewer Action Committee for a proposed sewer extension for the Spencer/Tuttle/Flint area (the proposal lost)
- The settlement of the Grace sewer betterment units
- Approval of the Northeast Area Groundwater Concept Design for the Grace Superfund site,
- The development of a draft Municipal Storm Drain System Bylaw by the Water Resources Advisory Committee developing the continuation of Emergency Preparedness exercises using the Medical Reserve Corps and Health Department staff,
- A grant from the Northwest Suburban Health Alliance/Community Health Network Area 15 DoN funds from Lahey Clinic for the Health Outreach Planning Essentials (HOPE) project,
- The third annual Wellness University co-hosted for the Board by the Health and Nursing Departments,
- The continuation of a fluorescent tube collection in cooperation with Acton Ace Hardware,
- The continuation of the Trail Through Time project in North Acton,
- The end of participation in the Westford/ Tyngsboro/ Chelmsford/ Acton Tobacco Alliance.

The Sewer Action Committee, continuing its work from last year, brought a proposal to Town Meeting that would provide low- pressure sewers to the Spencer/Tuttle Flint neighborhood. The proposal was brought forward quickly in an attempt to access Federal Stimulus Funds, which would offset the cost of the proposal. However, at Town Meeting it became clear that there was no consensus

on the project and too many questions remained that were not addressed. While a majority of Town Meeting voted in favor of the project it failed to achieve the necessary 2/3 majority needed for approval.

In order to resolve the questions that were raised at Town Meeting and to develop a consensus in the neighborhood the Town created a Wastewater Advisory Neighborhood Taskforce (WANT) charged to look into wastewater solutions for the neighborhood and provide a recommended resolution. By year's end the Taskforce had begun bi-monthly meetings and was working towards developing a mechanism to analyze all options available.

At Annual Town Meeting voters approved an agreement with W. R. Grace to reduce the number of betterment units assigned to their property in South Acton. As part of the agreement the sewer service area would gain back additional capacity for future expansion, the W. R. Grace property's access to the sewers would be limited to the agreed upon capacity and a Conservation restriction would be placed on 15.3 acres of Grace's property. The 18,000 gallons of wastewater capacity given back by W. R. Grace will be added to the existing 40,000 gallons of surplus capacity that the sewer district currently has and will be considered for future sewer expansion.

In June the EPA reviewed and conditionally approved the Northeast Area Groundwater Concept Design for the W. R. Grace site. The concept design includes installation of up to three groundwater extraction wells and two re-injection wells, along with a groundwater treatment system. Installation of the system is expected to occur in early 2010. Through the course of the year the Town and its consultant reviewed and commented on the NE Area Groundwater Concept Design, the Landfill Area Groundwater Pre-Design, the Sediment Concept Design, the 2008 Groundwater Monitoring Report, the Landfill Area Groundwater Concept Design, the Proposed Interim Groundwater Clean-up Level for Manganese and the Capture Zone Evaluation.

In May the Medical Reserve Corps conducted a drive through emergency dispensing site exercise. The purpose of the exercise was to test their capacity in providing inoculations while citizens remained inside their vehicles. Through this mechanism during a pandemic when widespread vaccinations are required social distancing can be provided, thereby protecting citizens from exposure. The exercise was considered extremely successful and plans were made for a fall seasonal flu vaccination clinic. Unfortunately the production of seasonal flu vaccine was delayed due to the Federal Government's focus on producing and distributing the H1N1 vaccine. However, the MRC still plans to conduct either an H1N1 drive through clinic in the spring of 2010 or a drive through seasonal flu clinic in

the fall. Many thanks are deserved for the voluntary work provided by the members of the MRC.

The Health Department was successful in receiving a Healthy Communities Planning Grant from Northwest Suburban Health Alliance/Community Health Network Area 15 DoN funds from Lahey Clinic. The Health Outreach Planning Essentials (HOPE) Project's mission is to engage all local citizens in a community assessment and planning process focused on making Acton a healthier community. This year a Healthy Communities Steering (HOPE) Committee was created and has begun meeting to develop that planning process. As the New Year begins, the committee's goal will be to get as much feedback as possible by sending out surveys and meeting with focus groups. Their mission will be find out what residents feel is lacking in the quest to make Acton a healthier community. Sheryl Ball from the Health Department staffs the HOPE project with assistance being provided by Catherine Fochtman, Recreation Director, Kristen Alexander, Assistant Town Planner and Laura Ducharme, Social Service Coordinator.

For the third year a Wellness University was conducted. This year participation was expanded to anyone 30 years and up. This program, working in conjunction with the Public Health Nursing Service provided a comprehensive one-day workshop that presented strategies for keeping well. The event provided courses in Staying Healthy in a Stressful World, Defining Fitness, Qigong, Domestic Violence Network, Sun Care, Chair Yoga, Pets and the Elderly, Muscle Strength, Acupuncture, Active Stretching, Sleep Health and Trigger Point Therapy. The event was well publicized and highly attended and its success was due to the commitment of the Health Department and Nursing Service staff.

For the second consecutive year the Board of Health provided a Rabies Day. Thanks to the cooperation and assistance of John Kelman, DVM, from the Great Road Veterinary Hospital, residents were able to have their dogs and cats vaccinated for rabies. The event was well attended and based on that participation a third rabies day is being planned for 2010.

For the second year a storage shed at the DPW facility was used to collect and recycle fluorescent tubes. As part of this mercury recovery program the Board of Health partners with Acton Ace Hardware, which provides a collection center for resident to drop off their old tubes or lamps. Residents are encouraged to participate in this program, as well as, to bring old rechargeable batteries, mercury thermometers and mercury switches to the Health Department located in the Town Hall. This year the following tubes and lamps were collected:

Four foot fluorescent tubes	10,000 linear feet
Eight foot fluorescent tubes	1,200 linear feet
Compact fluorescent lamps	461 lamps
U-Tube lamps	192 lamps

The Health Department continued to assist Linda McElroy with the Trail Through Time project. This year the project saw two handicapped trails, landscaping around the historical foundation and the parking lot relocation completed. Still in progress were clearing of brush and trees along the stone corridor, planting of the wildflower meadow, a side trail around historical stone piles, trail markers and the web site. This next year the project will look to exposing and protecting the historical well, installing stone and possibly wood benches, developing information panels for the stone piles, working on installing a staircase into the historical foundation and completing drawings and specifications for a pavilion and mill wheel proposal.

The Health Department's oversight of the Wastewater Treatment Plant again saw the plant continue to meet or exceed the extremely high treatment levels for subsurface effluent discharge. By year's end renewal of the five-year groundwater discharge permit with the State for the treatment plant was required. The appropriate applications were completed and the comment period for the application renewal was advertised in the Beacon on December 31st.

The Board welcomed two undergraduate students, Kayla L'Heureux and Lindsey Keegan from Worcester State College as interns. As part of their curriculum, students in the Health Science Program must conduct a 120-hour internship related to their course work. Kayla worked with the department staff to develop a Lyme Disease education and outreach program and Lindsey worked with the department staff in the planning for Wellness University. Each provided valuable work that might not have been achieved without their commitment. Based on the success of this internship program the Board will continue to seek additional interns from Worcester State College in the coming years.

In addition to the work provided by Kayla L'Heureux the Board also endorsed a public health forum on Lyme Disease provided by Kurt Hayes. This valuable forum reviewed Lyme disease issue as follows; what is it, how do you get it, how do you know if you have it, what is the treatment for it, how can it be prevented and what can be done to stop the disease. The forum was well attended and the efforts of Mr. Hayes were greatly appreciated by the Board.

The Town filed its sixth compliance report with EPA for its NPDES (National Pollution Discharge Elimination System) Storm Water Phase II Permit. The Health Department

working with the Planning Department, Public Works, Natural Resources Department, SUASCO, Acton Stream Team and the Water District achieved many goals to maintain the Town's compliance with federal requirements.

The larviciding and stream management program implemented by Central Massachusetts Mosquito Control Project (CMMCP) continues to address the health impacts from mosquito population. The West Nile Virus, previously found in other parts of the state, was first identified in Acton birds in 2001. The CMMCP conducted stream clearing throughout the Town and began complaint spraying in June. With the experience of human deaths in Massachusetts linked to the West Nile Virus the Board intends to remain vigilant on this issue. It should be noted that this program has also assisted the Town in gaining storm-water compliance with its focus on cleaning streams and culverts.

For the fifteenth year, two Hazardous Waste Days were conducted (May and October). The collection of CRTs (Cathode Ray Tubes) as hazardous waste has added significantly to both the amount of waste collected and the time required collecting the waste. Every resident who arrived during the collection time was able to rid themselves of their household hazardous waste and the wait for service was at a minimum. In addition, with the implementation of High Definition broadcasting requirements in February a special CRT/Television collection day was held in January. The following are the statistics for 2009:

Vehicles/Household served	1,315
CRT's/Televisions collected	850
Waste Aerosols	1080 pounds
Waste Pesticides	1800 pounds
Waste Flammables	4200 pounds
Waste Oxidizing liquids	110 pounds
Waste Oxidizing solids	95 pounds
Waste Pesticides	2000 pounds
Waste Corrosive Liquids	475 pounds
Waste Caustic Alkali	700 pounds
Waste Mercury	28 pounds
Waste Ammonia Solutions	100 pounds
Batteries	2675 pounds
Waste Paint Oil Based	4800 pounds

The Health Department remains very involved with the planning efforts of the Massachusetts Public Health Emergency Preparedness Region 4A. This group of 34 communities bordering the Route 495 corridor has developed a plan that provides emergency equipment and communications for every health department. This year the Region developed an online clinic registration process. Acton used the system for all of its H1N1 clinics, which allowed residents to schedule their appointments more effectively. In addition the Region hired TRC solutions to develop an Emergency Response Plan for each community.

With the shortfall in State funding the Board lost its ability to participate in the Westford/ Tyngsboro/ Chelmsford/ Acton Alliance, which assisted in administering a program of conducting tobacco compliance checks for all stores that sell tobacco products on a quarterly basis. To

the best of its ability the Board will try to compensate for this loss of service by using existing Health Department staff to conduct tobacco inspections. The Board plans to continue working with the School Department to find better controls in bringing compliance to the no smoking regulations required for activities on school grounds.

2009 Permits

Wastewater	Permits	Wastewater Miscellaneous	Permits
Title 5 Inspections	144	Disposal Works Installers	54
New Construction Septic	39	Title 5 Inspectors	37
Innovative/Alternative	21	Wastewater Treatment Plants	12
Replacement Construction Septic	41	Septage Haulers	22
Innovative/Alternative	31	Porta-Potties	12
Minor Repairs Septic	41	Septic Tank Pumpings	2,597
Food Preparation Service	Permits	Specialty Food Service	Permits
0 seats	21	Hot Bar	4
1 to 40 seats	25	Cold Bar	4
41 to 100 seats	13	Deli	5
100+ seats	6	Bulk Food	3
Cafeterias	11	Bakery	7
Food Retail Service	Permits	Miscellaneous Food Service	Permits
Less than 5,000 square feet	36	Utility Kitchen	13
5,000 to 10,000 square feet	3	Sundries	13
over 10,000 square feet	7	Catering	4
Temporary Food	38	Mobile Food	3
Frozen Dessert	2	Tobacco	27
Residential Kitchen	2		
Hazardous Materials – Generator/User	Permits	Hazardous Materials – Storer	Permits
Large Waste Generator	1	Large Industry Storer	21
Small Waste Generator	61	Small Industry Storer	107
Materials Generator	3	Large Retail Storer	1
Materials User	129	Small Retail Storer	11
Remediation Discharge	2	Waste Storer Industry	66
Remediation	7	Waste Storer Retail	10
Waste User	3	UST Removal	
Miscellaneous Health	Permits		
Body Art Practitioner	1	Beach	1
Body Art Establishment	1	Swimming Pools	19
Commercial Hauler	9	Wading Pools	4
Funeral Directors	2	Tanning Salon	1
Drain Layer	7	Sewer Connections	18
Private Wells	0	Camps	11
Car Wash	14		

The Board regrets the loss of long time Associate member Rita Dolan with her passing this year. Rita was a staunch public health advocate who cared deeply for the Public Health Nursing Service. As well as being an associate member for almost 15 years with the Board she was also an original member of the Friends of the Acton Nursing Service when it was founded in 1983. During the course of her membership she also served terms as both Treasurer and President. Her activism and energy will be greatly missed by the Board.

The Board welcomes the addition of Laura Ducharme as the Town's Social Services Coordinator. In addition, the Board thanks its entire staff in the Health Department: Health Director, Doug Halley, Sanitarians Justin Snair and Sheryl Ball, Inspector Don LaPierre, Animal Inspector Patrick Palmer, Sealer of Weights And Measures Mark Fitzpatrick and Secretary Isabel Roberts) for ably assisting the Board in achieving so many goals in the past year. The Board thanks Brenda Nelson for her continued assistance and Jenny Gormley and Diana McNicholas from the School Nurses for their valued assistance in conducting H1N1 clinics. The Board also extends its thanks to the following members of town departments who helped in the past year: Frank Widmayer, Police Chief; Tom Tidman, Natural Resources Director; Scott Mutch, Zoning Enforcement Officer; Frank Ramsbottom, Building Commissioner; Bob Craig, Fire Chief; Roland Bartl, Town Planner; Dean Charner, Municipal Properties Director; Bruce Stamski, Director of Public Works; and Cathy Fochtman, Recreation Department Director.

Members:

Joanne Bissetta, Chair
Dr. Pamela Harting-Barrat,
Vice Chair
Mark Conoby, Member
William Taylor, Member
William McInnis, Member
Michael Kreuze, Associate Voting

DOG OFFICER

During the year I received 185 calls regarding dog problems throughout Acton. The majority of these calls consisted of lost and found dogs and most were solved in a short period of time. Licensed owners claimed all but two of the dogs that were picked up and brought to the kennel. The two unclaimed stray dogs were placed in area shelters and adopted by caring families.

In addition, 16 dog bylaw citations were issued to owners who permitted their dogs to roam freely and become a nuisance to others.

Sadly, I receive many calls a month to report missing outdoor cats. This seems to be an increasingly common occurrence and seems to be directly related to the abundance of wildlife in the area that prey on domestic animals

Patrick Palmer, Dog Officer

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

The Acton Emergency Management Agency (AEMA) consists of the following: Communications/RACES (Ham Radio Operators), Auxiliary Fire Department, Rehab/Support Services Team, Shelter Management and Explorer Post/Venture Crew 7 (BSA). All the members are expected to take First Aid and CPR to keep their training current. Our members provide First Aid/CPR, Communications and Logistical support at many of our Town's celebrations including Patriots Day, Memorial Day, the Fourth of July, NARA events, Oktoberfest and other events.

Throughout the year different members have taken courses through the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) and the Red Cross.

Our Members provide many volunteer hours to the Town beyond our regular meetings and trainings. The Agency is ready to respond to help make a difference in time of need and are available 24 hours a day. We may be contacted by calling 978-264-9655; leave a brief message along with your phone number. A member of the Agency will return your call as soon as possible.

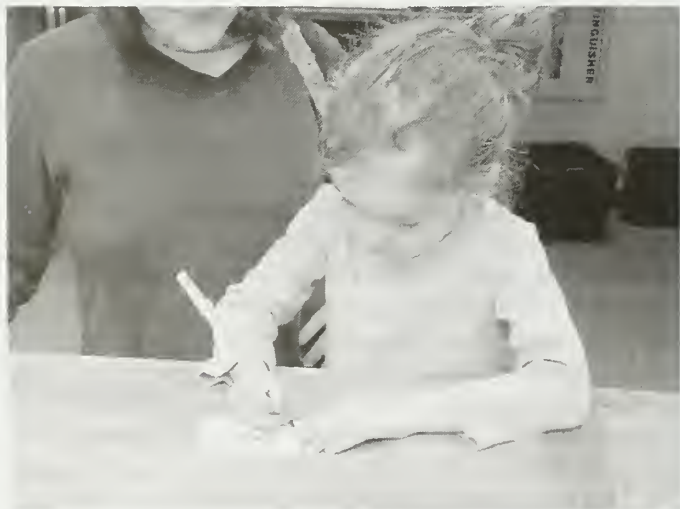
We are grateful for the assistance of the Acton Fire and Police Departments along with the Nursing Service for their cooperation and continued support. We are grateful to the Acton Highway Department for keeping our vehicles in running condition and to Municipal Properties for the upkeep of the Emergency Management Agency Building.

Special thanks go to the dedicated volunteers who make it possible to provide the various services to the citizens of Acton. Without their support the Agency would not be able to assist the public when needed.

The Acton Emergency Management Agency is always happy to accept applications for more volunteers. Use your skills to help out in your Community, for more information please call 978-264-9655.

Officers of Acton Emergency Management
Murray, John E – Director
Sawyer, Gail L. – Deputy Director,
KB1ICF-RACES Operator

Members:
Aderer, Alex K1EIU – RACES/Communications
Campbell, Seth E.
Chalmers, John J.
Constantzos, Hector
Hilfer, Eric KB1HQN – RACES/Communications
Ingram, Connie Sue – Shelter Specialist
Ingram, Bob – Warning Officer
King, Laurie
McGovern, John KB1HDN – RACES/Communications
Medicus, Jeremy
Niemi, Wayne E.
Northup, Shelley N1JVE – RACES/Communications
Northup, William N1QPR – RACES/Communications
Ouellette, Chris KB1ICG – RACES/Communications
Reilly, Anne M.
Reilly, Edward F. KB1ICI-RACES/Communications,
Transportation/Equipment Officer
Simon, Susanne L.



New library card.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Typically I begin this report with a brief account of the significant events of the year. It is often difficult to sort through the information to accurately report and describe the significant events, changes and achievements that took place. Without a doubt in this instance, I am able to report with certainty that the most significant event of the past year was the tragic loss of Firefighter/EMT Leo Hayes, who was killed in an auto accident on February 26. I am at a loss to fully describe the impact Leo's death had on the department. It is a loss that we will certainly never forget. Conversely, I also cannot fully describe nor can I fully report all the ways that the members of this department, with the support of the Acton Police Department and numerous other police and fire departments in the area, came together to pay final tributes and to initiate numerous fundraising events to provide for his wife and family and continue to do so. I could not be prouder or more grateful for the actions and response of our personnel and the overwhelming generosity and response of all that were deeply touched by this tragedy.

There were no fatalities or serious injuries as a result of a fire incident that occurred during the past year. There were two structure fires of note, both of which escalated to the point of requiring a second alarm assignment to bring in out of town assistance. In both cases, the quick response and actions of on-duty personnel resulted in minimizing damage to the properties. The Acton Fire Department was also heavily involved in a multi-day, multi-agency search operation in an area off of Davis Road. This extensive search was for a missing resident from Concord who was unfortunately found to be deceased in the woods, after a number of days of searching.

One of the major challenges is the continued negative impact of the current economy. This was primarily felt in the available budget monies for training, shift coverage and general spending. All of our efforts in this regard are focused on maintaining the maximum authorized staffing within budget. However, during the year we were fortunate once again in obtaining both apparatus and equipment primarily through federal and state grants and off set spending within the Town's revenues. As we begin the process of budgeting for the upcoming year, many financial parameters remain uncertain.

Following is a brief synopsis of other highlights and changes that occurred to the Acton Fire Department during the past year.

Apparatus and Equipment:

In the summer of 2009, this department took delivery of and placed into service a replacement for our 1993 aerial ladder truck. Pierce Manufacturing Company of Appleton,

Wisconsin manufactured this new ladder truck. It is a 105-foot Heavy Duty Aerial Ladder truck and is a state of the art, specialized piece of apparatus. This aerial ladder truck should serve the Town well for many years to come. In addition a second ambulance was purchased and placed into service. Both of these projects involved the efforts of numerous personnel to evaluate different options and develop bid specifications. I would like to thank the many personnel who provided their input and expertise to participate in and complete these projects to review and develop specifications and bid packages, order the new apparatus and inspect the apparatus for delivery and acceptance. Also relative to apparatus purchases, specifications were developed and the bid was awarded to purchase a new pumper that will be a replacement for one of our first line pumpers. This bid was awarded to Pierce Manufacturing Company and the new engine has a projected delivery date, early in 2010. Our Hazardous Material Trailer was damaged beyond repair and was replaced.

Captain Carl Robinson continued in the position of Maintenance Officer for the department, assisted by Lieutenant Scott Morse. Lieutenant Robert Smith continued to assist in this area by handling small equipment and metering devices. Lieutenant Brian Richter, assisted by Firefighter/EMT Chris Sammett continued to be responsible for the maintenance of our self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) and Firefighter/EMT Robert Sabourin continued the task of maintaining our hand-light inventory and Firefighter/EMT Rick Robinson continues to be responsible for our ground ladders. General oversight of all apparatus maintenance is also the responsibility of Deputy Chief Lyons. I would like to thank all of these individuals for their efforts in keeping our apparatus and equipment in good condition at all times.

In 2009 we were able to replace our Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) units with new, state of the art units which included built-in provisions to assist in the location of personnel should they become lost in a structure during fire suppression operations. This apparatus was purchased primarily through funds from a federal grant.

I would also like to report the completion of the installation of Plymovent Exhaust Extraction Systems in all three Fire/EMS stations. This actually occurred late in the fall of 2008 and was a long awaited project that will serve to enhance the health and safety of our personnel by the automatic removal of diesel exhaust and fumes upon the entrance or exit of apparatus from the stations.

Emergency Medical Services:

Once again the Acton Fire Department Emergency Medical Services division experienced a slight but anticipated increase in response activity. There was a total of 1,484 responses for emergency medical assistance.

It is anticipated that EMS responses will only continue to increase with the increasing population and building development,

The Fire Department's 38 Firefighter/EMT's (Emergency Medical Technicians) and two First Responders received continuing education and training throughout the year to maintain skills needed to provide quality medical care to the residents of Acton. Fire Department personnel are also Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) certified and are trained on the use of Automatic External Defibrillators (AED).

The Department maintains nine Automatic External Defibrillators (AED). These units are placed on fire apparatus and in a command vehicle as well. Several of the AED's that are carried on our apparatus are coming to the end of their life expectancy. Planning for the replacement of these units is underway at this time.

As the number of emergency medical incidents increased, and the frequency of simultaneous calls for medical assistance rose, we saw the need to place in service a second ambulance. In the spring of last year, the Town took delivery of a 2009 Horton ambulance purchased from Greenwood Emergency Vehicles of North Attleboro, MA. The second ambulance is very similar in layout to our older ambulance, which aids in maintaining standardization between the two units. With the addition of the second ambulance, the Town will not have to rely on mutual aid medical assistance from surrounding communities to the same degree that has been used in the past. It will also allow the department to maintain at least one ambulance in service in the event the second ambulance is out for maintenance. Both of Acton's ambulances are equipped with the latest in Basic Life Support technology.

I would also report that it appears that after providing ALS (Paramedic) service for well over 25 years, Emerson Hospital will no longer be able to sustain the service and will most likely end the service in the early part of 2010. As a result, provisions and planning are taking place to provide this service in another manner on a transitional basis, with a potential longer term solution of a regional paramedic entity under the control of the communities that are served by Emerson Hospital.

Captain Robert Vanderhoof continues to serve as our Emergency Medical Services (EMS) coordinator for this vital service to the Town of Acton. Our Fire\EMS personnel provide the highest level of quality care to residents and will continue to do so in a professional manner.

Emergency Preparedness:

This past fall, the Deputy Fire Chief and I participated with the Crossroads Regional Emergency Planning com-

mittee in a large-scale table top exercise that was held in Sudbury. This exercise was different from a previous exercise because it involved a total of six communities together with school officials from Lincoln-Sudbury High School. The scenario involved a simulated school related incident. This exercise was conducted by an outside facilitator and lasted for several hours and was funded as part of a regional grant. The exercise was quite beneficial to the participating communities and was followed by an after-action report to provide guidance for any corrective actions or policies

Facilities:

As I continue to mention in the annual reports, on-duty personnel maintain the Fire/EMS stations in relatively good condition, for their age. The maintenance efforts consist primarily of cleaning the stations, with repairs to the stations being handled by the Municipal Properties Department, who I would thank for their assistance. In addition to cleaning and minor repairs, on-duty personnel have also painted many areas of the stations, which certainly is appreciated. However, as I also continue to report, our current Fire/EMS stations continue to be in need of restoration and renovation. On a related note it is disappointing to report that there was not a great deal of action or movement relative to obtaining a North Acton Fire/ EMS station during the past year.

Fire Alarm:

The Fire Alarm division continued to maintain a total of 529 fire alarm boxes. These consisted of 245 master fire alarm boxes, 246 street fire alarm boxes, 27 medical call boxes and 11 radio fire alarm boxes. Three new radio fire alarm boxes were added to the municipal fire alarm system. In addition, the Fire Alarm Division continued to work with utility companies on a number of pole transfers by moving the fire alarm wires from old utility poles to new utility poles. During the course of the year there were approximately 100 banners and flags that were put up and taken down at the three locations for roadway banners within the town and in town parking lots.

One of the projects completed, directly related to fire alarm, was the transition of our Fire Alarm billing process over to the town system for greater efficiency and reliability. I would like to note and especially thank Deputy Chief Lyons and our secretary, Mrs. A.J. Pelkey for their work with our Finance Department to accomplish this. Previous to this process we used a stand-alone billing software program for our billing which was somewhat more cumbersome and difficult to integrate with the Town accounting system.

Firefighter/EMT Brent Carter continues to maintain and update our street map information used by this department as well as the police department and our public safety dispatchers. Once again I would like to thank him for continuing to provide this vital function.

Fire Prevention:

The Student Awareness of Fire Education (S.A.F.E.) Program continued during 2009. Personnel involved in this program throughout the year included F.F/EMT's Anita Arnum, Richard Sullivan, Tom Matthews, Steve DiMeco, Chuck Dunnigan, Brent Carter and Jim Ruggiero.

Once again this past fall we had a very successful Fire Department Open House. I would like to commend and thank all of the personnel who participated or assisted in this endeavor in any way to make it such a success. I would especially like to thank Firefighter/Emt's Brent Carter and Jared Crowley who stepped up to coordinate the Open House. As in the past I would also like to thank Jim Ray who displayed his antique fire engines, as well as other antiques fire equipment. We were fortunate once again to present the SAFE trailer program at the Open House which allowed a large number of children and adults to go into an artificial smoke environment and be instructed as to recommended practices to exit a home and call 911 in the event of a fire. This trailer was used for the Open House and was extremely busy and very successful throughout the day. Through the efforts of Firefighter/EMT's Brent Carter and Tom Matthews and Deputy Chief Lyons, a SAFE trailer was obtained and placed into operation for regional use by our mutual-aid district communities. We have re-organized our SAFE program using a number of newer personnel who are now involved in this extremely worthwhile venture. We are hopeful that we will be able to continue to expand this vital program primarily within our schools. This is dependent on sufficient grant funding and/or outside sponsorship to allow the program to continue and, perhaps, expand.

The department continued to review and inspect a number of commercial renovations as well as numerous residential projects. There were a total of 53 plan reviews of which 45 were for commercial projects and eight were residential projects. The Deputy Fire Chief conducted the majority of the plan reviews as well as other code enforcement activities. In addition to these functions, the Deputy Chief also conducted numerous inspections of tank vehicles housed within the Town. This is a required inspection program that is conducted every other year.

Firefighter/EMT's James Ray and Firefighter Bruce Stone continued to serve as our Fire Investigators. These men work with and/or are assisted by investigators from six other area fire departments that comprise a regional fire investigation team. The regional concept continues to work well to allow investigators of individual communities to maintain their level of expertise when fire investigations do occur. In addition, Lt. Jack White took courses in fire and arson investigation.

As in previous years during the months of November and December personnel were extremely busy as they conducted required inspections of restaurants with liquor licenses, in coordination with the building department. This included several changes to establishments within the town. Career personnel under the guidance and coordination of the Deputy Fire Chief primarily conducted these inspections. These inspections were conducted with or in conjunction with the Acton Building Department.

Hazardous Materials:

Fortunately in 2009 there were no significant hazardous material incidents that impacted the town. Firefighter EMT Anita Arnum continued to receive additional specialized training as part of her assignment with the regional Hazardous Materials Response Team and the Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) team located in Beverly, Massachusetts. Firefighter/EMT Arnum was once again deployed with the USAR team. In this instance she was deployed to the State of North Dakota in response to extreme flooding conditions in that state.

Personnel:

There were a number of personnel changes that took place during the past year. They were as follows:

Firefighter/EMT Gage Cummings was hired on September 2, 2009.

Firefighter Forrest E. Bean, III retired on November 1, 2009 after 38 years of service to the town of Acton and this department. Firefighter Bean, besides being a very knowledgeable and capable veteran firefighter was an individual who accomplished many projects and provided a great deal of assistance to the department, oftentimes without any special notice or fanfare.

Firefighter /EMT James Rautenberg resigned from the department on November 20, 2009.

Firefighter James Young retired on November 30, 2009 after 34 years of service to the town of Acton and the Acton Fire Department. Firefighter Young, similar to Firefighter Bean also assisted with many projects, most recently being involved in the selection and purchase of several pieces of fire apparatus. During his career, he served on the dive team for the department as well.

During the year there were a number of positions that remained in a state of uncertainty due to several long-term injuries and illnesses. As a result, temporary Firefighter/EMT's Jim Byrne and Michael McGovern were hired. These two individuals were ultimately hired as permanent, career firefighter/EMT's to fill vacancies as noted above.

In December of 2009, the department was saddened to learn of the passing of Firefighter William Murphy of Stow, MA. Firefighter Murphy was a career firefighter from approximately 1972- 1975 at which time he left the department to return to operating his own business.

Training:

Last year I reported that all of our new personnel hired to that date had graduated from the 12 week recruit program at the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy. However, as a result of the personnel changes noted above, Firefighter/EMT's Byrne and McGovern are currently attending the recruit program with an anticipated graduation date of February 26, 2010.

As a result of the delivery of new apparatus and equipment, training was conducted with the delivery of the new ladder truck and similarly with the receipt of new Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) units. In both cases factory representatives conducted training for all personnel.

Of note also in the area of training is the fact that during the year some of our personnel completed outside course work conducted by the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy. This included the attendance and completion of the Fire Officer I and Fire Instructor I course by Lt. Scott Morse and Firefighter/EMT Kris Ellicks.

Conclusion:

As always, I would like to thank all of our personnel for their consistent and continued assistance and cooperation during the past year. I have endeavored to specifically note many of our personnel throughout this report. However, even though not specifically mentioned there are many other personnel who have contributed in some way throughout the past year to provide the very best in fire ,rescue services and emergency medical services for the town.

It would impossible to accomplish our mission without the support and the assistance of other town departments and agencies for which I am grateful. I would like to thank them once again for the invaluable assistance that they provide throughout the year. I would also like to especially note and thank our public safety dispatchers for the job that they do, which in turn befits this department as well as the citizens that we serve. Finally, many residents continued to send notes of thanks and appreciation or just stop by one of our stations to drop off various baked items, candy, fruit or cards as a way of saying thanks to our personnel. These kind gestures and the thoughtfulness of those we serve are very much appreciated.

In conclusion, I would like to especially thank and acknowledge Deputy Fire Chief Kevin Lyons for his ongoing assistance and support during the past year. His efforts and assistance have been invaluable. I would also like to thank Firefighter/EMT Ken Ineson, Fire Alarm Superintendent for his input in the preparation of the Fire Alarm portion of this report. Likewise, I would specifically note and thank Captain Robert Vanderhoof for his preparation of the EMS portion of this report. Finally, following this report is a statistical summary of departmental incidents and activities during the year.

Robert C. Craig , Fire Chief

ACTON FIRE DEPARTMENT ANNUAL STATISTICS – 2009

Fire

16	Building Fire
29	Cooking fire, confined to container
5	Chimney or flue fire, confined to chimney or flue
2	Fuel burner/boiler malfunction, fire confined
1	Passenger Vehicle Fire
6	Mobile property (vehicle) fire, other
6	Brush or brush and grass mixture fire
4	Dumpster or other outside trash receptacle fire
2	Outside rubbish fire, other
3	Special outside fire, other
74	Sub-Total, Fire

Overpressure, Ruptures, Explosion, Overheat (no ensuing fire)

1	Excessive heat, scorch burns with no ignition
1	Overpressure rupture, explosion, overheat other
2	Sub-Total, Overpressure, Ruptures, Explosion, Overheat (no ensuing fire)

Rescue & Emergency Medical Service

12	Medical assist, assist EMS crew
1,241	EMS call, excluding vehicle accident with injury
29	Mutual Aid Outgoing I Medical Non-MVA
1	Mutual Aid Outgoing / Medical-MVA
160	Vehicle accident with injuries
3	Motor vehicle/pedestrian accident (MV Ped)
15	Motor vehicle accident with no injuries
8	Lock-in (not lock-out)
4	Search for person on land
2	Extrication of victim(s) from vehicles
4	Rescue, emergency medical call (EMS) call, other
1,479	Sub-Total Rescue & Emergency Medical Service Mutual Aid Outgoing / Medical-MVA

Hazardous Conditions (No Fire)

5	Gasoline or other flammable liquid spill
52	Gas leak (natural gas or LPG)
1	Oil or other combustible liquid spill
57	Carbon monoxide incident
1	Heat from short circuit (wiring), defective/worn
2	Overheated motor
1	Light ballast breakdown
30	Power line down
10	Arcing, shorted electrical equipment
1	Explosive bomb removal (for bomb scare, use 721)
1	Attempt to burn
22	Hazardous condition, other
183	Sub-Total, Hazardous Conditions (No Fire)

Service Calls

44	Lock-out (not lock-in)
32	Water Problem / Evacuation
3	Water or steam leak
11	Smoke or odor removal
6	Assist police or other governmental agency
5	Public service
46	Assist invalid
17	Unauthorized burning
1	Cover assignment, standby, move up
4	Service Call, other
169	Sub-Total, Service Calls

Good Intent Calls

2	Dispatched & canceled en route
2	No incident found on arrival at dispatch address
2	Authorized controlled burning
39	Smoke scare, odor of smoke
7	Steam, vapor, fog or dust thought to be smoke
27	Good intent call, other
79	Sub-Total, Good Intent Calls

False Alarms & False Calls

11	Municipal alarm system, malicious false alarm
1	Direct tie to FD, malicious/false alarm
1	Sprinkler activation due to malfunction
74	Smoke detector activation due to malfunction
3	Heat detector activation due to malfunction
71	Alarm system sounded due to malfunction
3	CO detector activation due to malfunction
13	Sprinkler activation, no fire - unintentional
1	Extinguishing system activation
71	Smoke detector activation, no fire - unintentional
36	Detector activation, no fire - unintentional
65	Alarm system sounded, no fire - unintentional
2	Carbon monoxide detector activation, no CO
11	False alarm or false call, other
363	Sub-Total, False Alarms & False Calls

Severe Weather & Natural Disasters

1	Lightning strike (no fire)
11	Severe weather or natural disaster, other
12	Sub-Total, Severe Weather & Natural Disasters

Other Type of Incidents

7	Citizen complaint
1150	Fire Alarm (Plug In or Plug Out)
18	Fire Alarm Work (Supt.)
402	Inspection, 26F 1/2 Smoke Detector
32	Inspection, Annual
95	Inspection, Final Occupancy
18	Inspection, Fire Drill
49	Inspection, LP Installation
87	Inspection, not classified
5	Inspection, Oil Burner Alteration
1	Inspection, Oil Tank Installation
32	Inspection, Site Inspection
8	Inspection, Tank Removal
1	Inspection, Tank Truck
15	Lock Box Activity / Key Update
18	Mutual Aid Outgoing / Engine
3	Public Education (non-SAFE)
5	Public Education (SAFE)
8	Special type of incident, other
14	Training
1,968	Sub-Total, Other Type of Incidents

Other Incidents (codes with no roll-up values)

48	CAD (Computer Aided Dispatch) Entry error
2	Mutual Aid
1	Mutual Aid Outgoing / Personnel only
51	Sub-Total, Other Incidents (codes w/no rollup values)

Total Incident Numbers for this Period: 4,380

1,637 Permits were issued in 2009

Fire Chief: Robert C. Craig

Deputy Fire Chief: Kevin M. Lyons

Captains:

Robert Hart
Michael Lyons
Carl T. Robinson
Robert Vanderhoof

Lieutenants:

Scott Morse
Brian Richter
Robert Smith
John White

Firefighters:

Richard O'Leary
Bruce Stone

Firefighter/EMT's:

Anita Arnum
James Byrne
Kenneth Carroll
Brent Carter
Jared Crowley
Gage Cummings
Edmond Daigneault
Joshua DeFelice
Steven DiMeco
Michael Doherty
Charles Dunnigan
Kris Ellicks
Shawn Ferrari
Kenneth Ineson
Patrick Judge
James Kissane

Eric Mathieu
Thomas Matthews
Michael McGovern
Nicholas Pentedemos
James Ray
Ricky Robinson
James Ruggiero
Robert Sabourin
Christopher Sammet
Sean Sheridan
Dennis Smith
Richard Sullivan
Clem Tyler
Brian Whalen

Call Firefighter:

Robert Puffer

Forest Warden:

Robert C. Craig, Fire Chief

AUXILIARY FIRE DEPARTMENT _____

The Acton Auxiliary Fire Department is a division of the Acton Emergency Management Agency. It is comprised of a group of dedicated volunteers who donate their time and efforts to provide support services to the Town of Acton during times of emergencies.

The Department is on automatic response to all Acton Fire Department box alarms, providing lighting as well as other support services. One of the most important of these services is "Rehab," or the establishing of a rest and rehabilitation area for the personnel at a working fire or similar event. We are equipped with portable generators and lighting as well as other necessary equipment.

We would like to thank all those who have supported and assisted us throughout the year. From the Highway Department, that has maintained our vehicles, to the Fire and Police Departments that have requested our assistance, but mostly to the residents of the Town of Acton for allowing us to provide these services.

We meet at the Emergency Management Building at 3 School Street. Department membership is open to all individuals over the age of eighteen who live or work within a 10-mile radius of the Emergency Management Building and have a genuine desire to help others through volunteering. Please call 978-264-9655 and leave a message.

Gail L. Sawyer
Deputy Director
Acton Emergency Management Agency

POLICE DEPARTMENT _____

The economy continued to decline during 2009 but there do appear to be some signs that a recovery is coming. Our problems during a recession include increases in suicide attempts, domestic violence calls and property crimes. Business and house break-ins continue to be a growing concern. There are many drug-addicted individuals who have no means of support other than to steal your property. I ask town residents to monitor their neighborhoods and report any suspicious activity.

The town is still unable to fill the Deputy Chief position I requested and that was approved at town meeting two years earlier. This is a problem that continues to hinder the police operation and I am hopeful that it will be addressed soon.

State budget cuts are causing major concern and will adversely affect a number of initiatives that have been put in place during my term as Chief. The Community Policing Grant that we rely on is being cancelled at the state level. This will cause our department to lose many valuable programs unless we find a way around the budgetary issues. Domestic violence prevention programs, department motorcycles, restorative justice, and crosswalk enforcement are a few of the programs in jeopardy.

Lt. Robert Parisi and Sgt. Scott Howe were promoted by permanent appointment to their new ranks during 2009. Congratulations to both of them.

The police department patrol officers respond to two vehicle crashes on average every day of the year. Some of the accidents are very serious with life-threatening injuries. Traffic is increasingly a problem and there appears to be no quick solution for it. Residents are very concerned with the numbers and speeds of vehicles on their roads. Our traffic enforcement officers are working diligently and we utilize specialized crosswalk enforcement efforts to combat this problem.

We continue to deal with many domestic violence calls. In 2009 we responded to 251 calls of family violence. These calls tend to be dangerous to the participants and to the officers who respond. Our department expends a lot of time and resources when investigating and handling these cases, from the initial call through the conclusion in the court system. Finding a way to diminish domestic violence remains one of my top priorities. Our officers work closely with families who need this type of intervention by teaming our police officers with civilian advocates from the Domestic Violence Victim Assistance Program.

I thank the Town Management for their support. I also appreciate the police department officers and staff. They all do a fine job in keeping the residents and visitors to our community safe.

Frank J. Widmayer III
Chief of Police

Members of the Acton Police Department

CHIEF OF POLICE
Francis J. Widmayer III

LIEUTENANTS
Thomas Rogers
Robert L. Parisi

SERGEANTS
James A. Cogan
Raymond P. Grey
Edward Lawton Jr.
John Cooney
Scott Howe

POLICE OFFICERS
Paul Cogan
Robert Cowan
James Goodemote
Christopher Browne
Christopher Prehl
Frederick Rentschler
Michael Cogan
Kevin Heffernan
Luke Penney
Leo Gower
Dean Keeler
Gardena Abramowitz
Keith Campbell
Daniel Silva
Douglas Sturniolo
Scott Krug
Daniel Holway
Todd McKelvie
Tricia Sullivan
John Collins
Steven McCarthy
Michael Eracleo
Jonathan Stackhouse
David Joachim
Jesse Osterhoudt
James Hodgerney
John Dristilaris
Deborah Richardson
Roger Wallace
Raymond L. Laroche

POLICE MATRONS
Faith Williams
Deborah Richardson
Christine Joyce
Laura Mason

SECRETARY
Faith Williams

RECORDS CLERK
Becky Leblanc

DISPATCHERS
Kevin Antonelli
Roger Wallace
Daniel Deane
Robert Boyd
Matthew Hammer
Adam Bean
Alicia Mele
Patrick Hawthorne
Anne Milligan
Kristine June
Allison Bailey

OPERATIONAL ASSIGNMENTS

Officer In Charge of Patrol Division
Lt. Thomas Rogers

Officer In Charge of Special Services
Lt. Robert Parisi

Officer In Charge of Detectives
Sgt. Raymond Grey

Department Prosecutor
Det. Frederick Rentschler

Detectives
Det. Christopher Browne
Det. Kevin Heffernan
Det. Leo Gower

Youth Officers & School Resource
Det. James Goodemote
Det. Dan Silva
Det. Keith Campbell

Safety/Traffic/Crime Prevention Officers
Det. Robert Cowan
Det. Christopher Prehl

Training Officer
Lt. Robert Parisi

Domestic Violence Intervention Unit

Sgt. Raymond Grey

Det. Daniel Silva

Ptl. Tricia Sullivan

Ptl. Michael Eracleo

Patrol Division

Much about police technology and techniques has changed in the 162 years since Sir Robert Peel's first uniform police patrol force began to provide a prototype for what would become the American local police department – a publicly financed, publicly accountable, paramilitary, bureaucratic, twenty-four-hour, primarily uniformed force.

Sir Robert Peel could muse on the evolution of our police patrol function since his days, he would be struck at how much has changed and how much has remained the same. Substantial shifts in strategic thinking have occurred, and some remarkable technological tools have been added to the police officers tool kit. At the same time however, patrol officers have remained “master generalists” and are still expected to handle competently a mind-boggling mix of calls. In the shorthand parlance of police dispatching and report writing, within a week's tour of duty a single officer might be dispatched to calls involving: domestic violence; deranged or disorientated person; missing person; cocktail lounge brawl; crowd control; drug dealing; animal bite; traffic accident; prowler; barking dog; suspicious person; speeding cars; wires down; loud noises; intrusion alarms; and so forth. This crazy quilt constitutes the fabric of police patrol work.

In addition to being varied, this master generalist's job is also exceptionally important. Patrol officers maintain closer contact with the public than any other section of the police department, and to a large extent the public's satisfaction with the police depends on how patrol officers handle these calls. Although a false home alarm call is just another call it may be a critical emergency for the resident surprised by its activation. The grueling routine of answering call after call, taking report after report, and randomly driving the streets can become a laborious task.

Our uniformed police patrol force consists of one lieutenant, four sergeants, seventeen full time patrolmen, four part-time patrolmen and one police dog. We operate in a patrol configuration characterized by three basic patrol sectors (South Acton, West Acton and the area north of Route 2) on a twenty-four hour basis, seven days a week. A fourth patrol sector (central patrol / area north of Route 2 and south of Route 2A) is added when staffing levels permit. Staffing this commitment to our community continues to challenge our limited resources and remains my most critical concern.

I am happy to report that Patrolman Dean Keeler returned to work in January after suffering serious injuries in a motor vehicle accident while responding to a burglary alarm on a police motorcycle.

While patrolling the north patrol sector at 1AM on a cold February night, Patrolman Steve McCarthy stopped a vehicle for a minor motor vehicle violation. It did not take long for Patrolman McCarthy to discover he had two real bad guys cornered. McCarthy's actions led to the arrest of two well-known felons on multiple burglary charges.

Patrolman James Hodgerney joined our patrol force in October. Jim grew up in Worcester. His father is a retired Worcester police sergeant and his brother is a Spencer police officer. After completing three years of study at Norwich University, Jim was recruited by the Worcester Police Department. Jim graduated from the Worcester Police Academy only to be laid off due to budget cuts. We were very fortunate to bring Jim to Acton and he has already become a highly valued member of our patrol force.

Winter also brought us a fatal pedestrian accident on South Main Street. Spring brought us yet another pedestrian accident on Main Street at the Hayward Road crosswalk. The patrol division takes all motor vehicle violations seriously and targeted crosswalk enforcement as a primary goal for 2009. Subsequently, more than two hundred crosswalk enforcement actions were taken against motorists who did not stop for pedestrians in crosswalks last year.

You are your own protector was the adage by which early citizens of Acton lived. As the town grew, the Selectmen took over the duties of police with the chairman automatically becoming the Chief of Police. If the Selectmen were unable to serve as police due to age, the tax collector substituted for them. John Cutter of Acton Center was the first tax collector – police chief. He served as police chief for 30 years during the Civil War period.

After Chief Cutter's term, Acton elected part time police chiefs and the first elected chief was James Kinsley. Jim was repeatedly elected and served for 35 years. It was during Jim's tenure that citizens began to trust and rely on police to solve community problems. Chief Kinsley gained national notoriety by solving the murder of a child in the early 1900s. After Kinsley retired, John T. McNiff (grandfather of Lieutenant John “Doc” McNiff who became Acton's first Patrol Division Commander) was elected chief. Chief McNiff was the first to wear a police uniform.

Michael J. Foley became the first full time police chief in 1930. Mike ushered in many of the professional standards and procedures we use today. Mike patrolled Acton in our very first police patrol car and made a point to stop and speak with all residents. He created the concept of community policing, as we know it in Acton and is regarded as the father of today's Acton Police Patrol Division.

As the Acton Police Patrol Division prepares for 2010, our patrol officers are committed to providing the same dedicated service that Kinsley and Foley brought to our community. We will continue to value the rights of all people, treating everyone in a fair and courteous manner, respecting each individual's dignity while constantly trying to gain the trust of all we serve. Today, you need not be your own protector. You need only dial 911.

Tom Rogers
Patrol Division Commander

Special Services Division

Dispatch Operations (E-911)

Dispatch remains a critical first link in emergency response. Dispatchers continue to receive training in emergency medical dispatch and advanced incident command. During 2009 dispatch added two new part-time dispatchers Kristine June and Allison Bailey.

Training

All officers have completed annual in-service training held at the Lowell Police Academy. Several officers received specialized training in the following areas: domestic violence, legal updates, computer crimes, firearms, interview and interrogation.

Detective Dan Silva taught the following classes to town employees and residents: CPR, RAD (rape aggression defense) and defibrillator training.

Traffic and Safety

Officers assigned to Traffic and Safety continue to see an increase in complaints and activity. These officers are responsible for school bus evacuation drills in the spring and fall, junk car violations, school bus stop evaluation, commercial vehicle compliance and enforcement, road construction details, parking enforcement and large-scale events.

Traffic officers attended training for commercial vehicle drug interdiction and were trained as Tint meter instructors. Officers conducted a child seat safety check-point during the spring.

Activities are as follows:

School bus evacuations	All schools spring and fall
School Bus violations	16
Road rage investigations	10
Accidents with substantial injury	4
Commercial vehicle inspection	130
Commercial vehicle placed out of service	11
Commercial vehicle violations	222
Overweight Vehicle	18
Neighborhood speed complaints	27
Large scale traffic events	5
Request for speed trailer	12
Car seat inspections	33

Juvenile / School Resource Officers

Juvenile / Resource Officers are responsible for the majority of the interaction of youth with the police department. These officers serve to assist in crisis intervention situations, major school functions and provide support during emergencies. In addition to traditional police duties, these officers maintain effective communications between law enforcement, schools and the community through instruction programs including D.A.R.E safety programs and consultation to school officials, and staff coordination of law enforcement activities involving youth. Juvenile officers attended the National Association of School Resource Officers training and Cyber Bullying Investigation class.

Total School Resource Incidents	297
Juvenile Criminal charges	12
Larceny Reports	114
Threats	21
Sexual Assaults	11
Child Abuse	8
Child in need of services	14
Missing Persons	1
Drug Violations	22
Bullying Incidents	37
Malicious Destruction	46
Weapon Reports	13
Mental Health Emergencies	14
Lockdown Drills	10
Restorative Justice Circles	6
School Visitation/Assistance	>600hrs
Attendance Compliance	>50hrs
Classroom Instruction	>160hrs

The division would like to thank the school administration, staff, faculty and students as well as the community as a whole for its continued support of the School Resource Officer programs and its continued support of the efforts of the police department.

Investigations

Detectives have remained busy with an increase in identity theft and credit card fraud. There has been an increase in vandalism, credit card fraud, larceny and shoplifting during the past year. Detectives have received updated training in internet fraud, cyber crimes, interview and interrogation, rape investigation, domestic violence and crime scene photography.

Theft from Motor Vehicle	52
Theft of Motor Vehicle Parts	13
Theft from a Building	63
Motor Vehicle Theft	6
Aggravated Assault	6
Simple Assault	31
Forcible Fondling	8
Rape	3
Breaking and Entering	43
Shoplifting	21
Larceny	49
Credit card Fraud	27
Wire Fraud	5
Embezzlement	2
Counterfeit/Forgery	6
False Pretense/Swindle	23
Robbery	2
Intimidation	4
Vandalism	91
Weapon Law Violations	1
Narcotics Violations	23
Disorderly Conduct	10
Driving Under the Influence	17
Liquor Law Violations	3
Trespass	13
All Other Offenses	34

Robert Parisi
Lieutenant Special Services

EXPLORER POST/VENTURE CREW 7- SEARCH AND RESCUE_____

The Explorer Post/Venture Crew is a division of the Boy Scouts of America, sponsored by the Acton Lions Club, in conjunction with the Acton Emergency Management Agency. Meetings are held on Tuesday evenings every month at 7:30 at the Emergency Management Headquarters on School Street in South Acton. New members, both male and female, between 14 and 22 years old are always welcome. If interested, please call 978-264-9655.

We participated in many town activities including the Town Fair, Fourth of July, Acton Lions Club Ski and Skate Sale, Octoberfest and concerts at NARA Park. We have performed more than 3,000 volunteer service hours to the Town of Acton and the Boy Scout community by providing first aid and emergency services.

We wish to thank the Acton Lions Club for their continuing sponsorship in giving the youth of today the opportunity to work toward a better tomorrow.

Gail Sawyer-Advisor
Edward Reilly-Assoc. Advisor
Wayne Niemi- Associate Advisor
Connie Ingram- Committee Chair

Mark Casey
Scott Landry
Joe Calisto
Samantha Trecartin
Caitlin Battaglioli

SIDEWALK COMMITTEE_____

In July 2007, the Board of Selectmen responded to the growing need for more sidewalks in Acton by creating a Sidewalk Committee. This committee serves as an advisory board to the Selectmen. Over the course of our first year we came up with a list of six streets that we felt were in most need of a sidewalk. The streets were presented to, and approved, by the Board of Selectmen in June 2008.

Great progress in the construction of sidewalks occurred on these six streets. This includes:

1. Central Street (near Mt Hope Cemetery): Completed in Spring 2009
2. Lower Prospect: Near completion
3. Route 2A (Davis Road to Main Street): Next on list to be surveyed/designed
4. High Street (#30 - #46): Retaining wall to be built this winter 2009/2010. Sidewalk should be completed in 2010.
5. Main Street (Post Office Square to 2A): Trees removed in fall 2009. Sidewalk should be completed in 2010.
6. High Street (#77 to Parker): Successfully gathered temporary easements from every homeowner between 77 High Street and Parker Street for the purposes of surveying their property. The survey should be completed in spring 2010.

In fall 2009, we selected our next set of four streets that would follow the initial six. This recommendation will be presented to the Board of Selectmen in January as an addendum to our June 2008 report. These streets include:

1. Great Road (Main Street to Woodvale Condominiums)
2. Summer Street (between Central and Willow, plus a gap near Ethan Allen)
3. Taylor Road and Minot, and possibly Coughlin
4. Martin Street

Finally, we created a first draft of Sidewalk Design Guidelines. These guidelines will be distributed in January 2010 to a number of other town boards for comments/suggestions.

Goals for 2010:

- Present second set of selected sidewalks to Board of Selectmen for approval.
- Finalize our design guidelines and present to the Board of Selectmen for approval. Once approved, we will post to our Web page and request that other relevant departments (planning, zoning) post to theirs.
- Support the Engineering department with any assistance they require (gathering temporary easement signatures, talking with homeowners) to facilitate the building of the above sidewalks.
- Continue to review new development plans and respond to concerns from citizens.

Members:
Bettina Abe (co-chair)
Kate Chung (co-chair)
Sytske Campbell (secretary),
Leslie Hogan,
Dick Calandrella,
Celia Kent
Pam Cochrane
Steve Evans
Dana Snyder-Grant.

ABSTRACT OF THE ANNUAL TOWN MEETING HELD MONDAY, APRIL 6, 2009, 7:00 P.M._____

Acton-Boxborough Regional High School Auditorium
With Adjourned Sessions Held April 7, April 13, 2009

Number of Registered voters attending Town Meeting
April 6, 2009 – 589
April 7, 2009 – 354
April 13, 2009 – 458

Symbol	Description
*	This article is on the Consent Calendar
#	This article submitted by Citizen Petition

The Moderator, Mr. Mackenzie, called the Annual Town Meeting to order on Monday, April 6, 2009, at 7:00 PM. He introduced Rabbi Lewis Mintz of Congregation Beth Elohim, Rabbi Mintz then gave the invocation.

Mr. MacKenzie gave an overview of the process of Town Meeting. He then explained some basic rules and parliamentary procedure of the Town Meeting as found back of the warrant.

The Moderator asked the League of Voters to do a Study after the Fall Town Meeting. The League did a study of Town Meeting and performed the study extremely well. Mr. Mackenzie spoke in regard to the recommendations from the League of Women Voters. A number of recommendations were made. We will be trying these changes at this Town Meeting. If the changes seem to work, we will institutionalize them or if they need to be modified, we will modify them, if they need to be dropped, we will drop them.

Some of the differences are as follows; Debate time limit up to 12 minutes; Pro and Con argument up to 2 min to present argument; Amendments up to 5 minutes to back amendment; Time will be displayed on the screen. Questions will be taken at separate microphones. One question per person, in one part, not in many parts. Answers to question should be directed to a particular Board or Committee or person.

The Moderator explained that motions will be displayed on the screen for the audience. He explained to Town Meeting that they would be voting on the motions that are read, not the articles as written in the warrant.

The Moderator explained that all budget articles have been grouped together.

Mr. MacKenzie explained how the Consent Calendar is voted and proceeded to read the articles on the Consent Calendar: This will be done in two sections. If a consent article is held, it would be taken up after the completion of the remainder of the consent articles.

The Moderator thanked all the Town and School Volunteers for all their efforts.

ARTICLE 1 CHOOSE TOWN OFFICERS (Majority vote)

To choose all necessary Town Officers and Committees and to fix the salaries and compensation of all the elective officers of the Town as follows:

Moderator	\$ 20.00 per Town Meeting session
Board of Selectmen, Chairman	\$750.00 per year
Board of Selectmen, Member	\$650.00 per year

, or take any other action relative thereto.

MOTION: Ms. Friedrichs moves that the Town fix the compensation for elected officers as shown in the Article.

MOTION CARRIES UNANIMOUSLY

Cornelia O. Huber, Trustee of the Elizabeth White Fund, nominates Frank Joyner, 8 Birch Ridge Road, Acton for the position of trustee of the Elizabeth White Fund, term to expire 2012.

MOTION CARRIES UNANIMOUSLY

Gerald Browne, Trustee of the West Acton Citizens' Library, nominates Ellen Spero, 25 Windsor Avenue, Acton, for the position of Trustee of the West Acton Citizens' Library, term to expire 2012.

MOTION CARRIES UNANIMOUSLY

Robert Vanderhoof, Trustee of the Firemans Relief Fund, nominates William A. Klauer, 70 Piper Road, Acton, for the position of Trustee of the Firemans Relief Fund, term to expire 2012.

MOTION CARRIES UNANIMOUSLY

Alice P. Miller, Trustee of the Charlotte Goodnow Fund, nominates Cynthia Schimpf, 307 Littleton Road, Harvard, for the position of Trustee of the Charlotte Goodnow Fund, term to expire 2012.

MOTION CARRIES UNANIMOUSLY

ARTICLE 2 BUDGET TRANSFER
(Majority vote)

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from available funds a sum of money to defray necessary expenses above the amount appropriated at the 2008 Annual Town Meeting, or take any other action relative thereto.

MOTION: Mr. Magee moves that the Town take no action.

MOTION CARRIES UNANIMOUSLY

Budgetary Consent Calendar Articles and Motions

Article 3 Council on Aging Van Enterprise Budget

Move that the Town appropriate \$103,525 for the purpose of operating the Town of Acton Senior and Disabled Citizens Van service, and to raise such amount, \$53,525 be raised from department receipts and \$50,000 be raised from taxation.

Article 4 Nursing Enterprise Budget

Move that the Town appropriate \$796,406 for the purpose of operating the Town of Acton Public Health Nursing Service, and to raise such amount, \$655,000 be raised from department receipts and \$141,406 be transferred from retained earnings.

Article 5 Septage Disposal Enterprise Budget

Move that the Town appropriate \$135,526 for the purpose of septage disposal, and to raise such amount, \$135,526 be raised from department receipts.

Article 6 Sewer Enterprise Budget

Move that the Town appropriate \$1,638,389 for the purpose of operating the sewer system, and to raise such amount, \$1,638,389 be raised from department receipts.

Article 7 Recycling and Transfer Station Enterprise Budget

Move that the Town appropriate \$785,267 for the purpose of solid waste disposal and recycling, and to raise such amount, \$600,267 be raised from department receipts and \$185,000 be transferred from retained earnings.

Article 8 Self-Funding Programs (Revolving Funds)

Move that the revolving funds for the Local School System, Historic District Commission, Building Department, Sealer of Weights and Measures, Health Department, and Fire Department be continued in the amounts and for the purposes set forth in the expense column of this Article.

Article 9 Town Board Support – Acton-Boxborough Cultural Council

Move that the Town raise and appropriate \$2,000 for the ongoing expenses of the Acton-Boxborough Cultural Council.

MOTION: Mrs. Rosenzweig moves that the Town take up the seven budgetary articles in the Consent Calendar on pages 21 and 22 of the Warrant: Articles 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9.

Hold Article 7

MOTION CARRIES UNANIMOUSLY

ARTICLE 3 * COUNCIL ON AGING VAN ENTERPRISE BUDGET
(Majority vote)

To see if the Town will raise and appropriate, or appropriate from available funds a sum of money to operate the Senior Van Service, in accordance with Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 44, Section 53 F½, Enterprise Fund Law, or take any other action relative thereto.

MOTION: Mrs. Knibbe moves that the Town appropriate \$103,525 for the purpose of operating the Town of Acton Senior and Disabled Citizens Van service, and to raise such amount,

\$53,525 be raised from department receipts and \$50,000 be raised from taxation.

CONSENT MOTION CARRIES UNANIMOUSLY

ARTICLE 4 * NURSING ENTERPRISE BUDGET
(Majority vote)

To see if the Town will raise and appropriate, or appropriate from available funds a sum of money to provide Public Health and Visiting Nurse Services, in accordance with Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 44, Section 53F½, Enterprise Fund Law, or take any other action relative thereto.

MOTION: Mr. Berry moves that the Town appropriate \$796,406 for the purpose of operating the Town of Acton Public Health Nursing Service, and to raise such amount,

\$655,000 be raised from department receipts and \$141,406 be transferred from retained earnings.

Consent Motion Carries Unanimously

ARTICLE 5 * SEPTAGE DISPOSAL ENTERPRISE BUDGET
(Majority vote)

To see if the Town will raise and appropriate, or appropriate from available funds a sum of money for the purpose of septage disposal, in accordance with Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 44, Section 53F½, Enterprise Fund Law, or take any other action relative thereto.

MOTION: Mr. Magee moves that the Town appropriate \$135,526 for the purpose of septage disposal, and to raise such amount, \$135,526 be raised from department receipts.

CONSENT MOTION CARRIES UNANIMOUSLY

ARTICLE 6 * SEWER ENTERPRISE BUDGET
(Majority vote)

To see if the Town will raise and appropriate, or appropriate from available funds a sum of money for the purpose of operating and maintaining a sewer collection and treatment facility, in accordance with Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 44, Section 53F½, Enterprise Fund Law, or take any other action relative thereto.

MOTION: Mr. Magee moves that the Town appropriate \$1,638,389 for the purpose of operating the sewer system, and to raise such amount, \$1,638,389 be raised from department receipts.

CONSENT MOTION CARRIES UNANIMOUSLY

ARTICLE 7 * RECYCLING AND TRANSFER STATION ENTERPRISE BUDGET
(Majority vote) (Previously known as the NESWC Enterprise Budget)

To see if the Town will raise and appropriate, or appropriate from available funds, a sum of money for the purpose of solid waste disposal and recycling in accordance with Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 44, Section 53F½, Enterprise Fund Law, or take any other action relative thereto.

MOTION: Mrs. Rosenzweig moves that the Town appropriate \$785,267 for the purpose of solid waste disposal and recycling, and to raise such amount,

\$600,267 be raised from department receipts and \$185,000 be transferred from retained earnings

Held from consent

MOTION CARRIES

ARTICLE 8 * SELF-FUNDING PROGRAMS (REVOLVING FUNDS)
(Majority vote)

To see if the Town will vote, pursuant to Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 44, Section 53E½ to continue revolving funds for the Local School System, to be expended by the Superintendent of Schools; and for the Historic District Commission, Building Department, Sealer of Weights and Measures, Health Inspectional Services and Fire Department Fire Alarm Network, to be expended by the Town Manager, as noted below:

Fund	FY10 Estimated Revenue	FY10 Authorized Expenditure
School Department		
Douglas at Dawn/Dusk	\$ 221,000	\$ 221,000
Gates Amazing Programs	\$ 36,500	\$ 36,500
Merriam Mornings/Afternoons/Summer	\$ 211,500	\$ 211,500
Historic District Commission	\$ 600	\$ 600
Building Department u		
Includes fees for Microfilming, Electrical Permits, Plumbing Permits, Gas Permits, Sign Licenses and Periodic Inspection Fees	\$ 211,040	\$ 211,040
Sealer of Weights and Measures	\$ 11,621	\$ 11,621
Health Department		
Food Service Inspections	\$ 32,565	\$ 32,565
Hazardous Materials Inspections	\$ 34,008	\$ 34,008
Fire Department		
Fire Alarm Network	\$ 56,298	\$ 56,298

, or take any other action relative thereto.

MOTION: Mrs. Knibbe moves that the revolving funds for the Local School System, Historic District Commission, Building Department, Sealer of Weights and Measures, Health Department, and Fire Department be continued in the amounts and for the purposes set forth in the expenditure column of the article.

CONSENT MOTION CARRIES UNANIMOUSLY

ARTICLE 9 * TOWN BOARD SUPPORT – (Majority vote) ACTON-BOXBOROUGH CULTURAL COUNCIL

To see if the Town will raise and appropriate, or appropriate from available funds, the sum of \$2,000, or any other sum, to be expended by the Town Manager for the ongoing expenses of the Acton-Boxborough Cultural Council for programs in Acton, or take any other action relative thereto.

MOTION: Mr. Magee moves that the Town raise and appropriate \$2,000 for the ongoing expenses of the Acton-Boxborough Cultural Council.

CONSENT MOTION CARRIES UNANIMOUSLY

ARTICLE 10 AMBULANCE ENTERPRISE FUND (Majority vote)

To see if the Town will vote to establish an Ambulance Enterprise Fund in accordance with Massachusetts

General Laws Chapter 44, Section 53F½ for the purpose of health care, and to transfer the fund balance from the Ambulance Fees Revolving Fund, or take any other action relative thereto.

MOTION: Mrs. Rosenzweig moves that the Town establish an Ambulance Enterprise Fund for the purpose of health care, and appropriate \$1,208,681, and to raise such amount,

\$ 412,442 be raised from department receipts,
\$ 271,239 be raised from taxation,
\$ 525,000 be transferred from the Ambulance Fees Revolving Fund balance,

And further moves that the Town transfer to the Ambulance Enterprise Fund the remaining Ambulance Fees Revolving Fund balance as of June 30, 2009.

MOTION CARRIES

ARTICLE 11 TOWN OPERATING BUDGET (Majority vote)

To see if the Town will raise and appropriate, or appropriate from available funds, a sum of money to defray the necessary expenses of the departments, offices and boards of the Town, exclusive of the School budgets, or take any other action relative thereto.

MOTION: Mrs. Rosenzweig moves that the Town appropriate \$25,973,422 to be expended by the Town Manager for the purpose of funding the fiscal year 2010 municipal budget, and to raise such amount,

\$ 25,830,799 be raised from taxation,
\$124,623 be transferred from Wetlands Filing Fees,
\$18,000 be transferred from Cemetery Trust Funds for Cemetery use,

And further moves that Town authorize the Town Manager to sell, trade or dispose of vehicles and equipment being replaced and to expend any proceeds so received.

Motion to Amend: Mr. Kadlec moves to amend the amount to be appropriated from \$25,973,422 to \$25,373,422 and to amend the amount to be raised from taxation, from \$25,830,799 to \$25,230,799.

MOTION TO AMEND LOST

ORIGINAL MOTION CARRIES

ARTICLE 12 FUND COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT (Majority vote)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds a sum of money necessary to fund the cost items contained in Collective Bargaining Agreement(s) between the Town and one or more of its unions as filed with the Town Clerk, or take any other action relative thereto.

MOTION: Mr. Berry moves that the Town take no action.

MOTION CARRIES

ARTICLE 13 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS (Majority vote)

To see if the Town will raise and appropriate, or appropriate from available funds, a sum of money to be expended by the Town Manager for the purchase, replacement or improvement of vehicles, equipment or infrastructure as listed below, including related incidental costs, or take any other action relative thereto.

A.	Senior Center Facility Improvements	\$ 36,000
B.	Town Engineer Inspectional Vehicle	\$ 22,000
C.	Highway Department Dump Truck	\$ 135,000
D.	Municipal Properties Truck	\$ 45,000
E.	Municipal Properties Tractor	\$ 32,000
	Total	\$ 270,000

MOTION: Mrs. Rosenzweig moves that the Town transfer from the Recycling and Transfer Station Enterprise Fund (formerly known as the North East Solid Waste Committee Enterprise Fund) retained earnings and appropriate \$270,000 to be expended by the Town Manager for the purposes set forth in the article, and that the Town Manager be authorized to sell, trade or dispose of vehicles and equipment being replaced and to expend any proceeds so received.

MOTION CARRIES UNANIMOUSLY

ARTICLE 14 AMBULANCE REVOLVING FUND (Majority vote)

To see if the Town will vote, pursuant to Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 44, Section 53E½ to continue the Ambulance Fees revolving fund, to be expended by the Town Manager, as noted below:

Fund	FY10 Estimated Revenue	FY10 Authorized Expenditure
Fire Department		
Ambulance Fees	\$ 666,202	\$ 666,202

The fund from such fees to be used for acquiring equipment used in providing Emergency Medical Services (EMS), including but not limited to defraying the maturing debt and interest or lease costs thereof, and/or for paying a portion of the wages or salaries of Town employees who perform services as Emergency Medical Technicians, EMS First Responders, and other personnel engaged in providing Emergency Medical Services on behalf of the Town including the costs of fringe benefits associated with the wages or salaries so paid.

, or take any other action relative thereto.

MOTION: Mr. Berry moves that the Town take no action.

MOTION CARRIES UNANIMOUSLY

ARTICLE 15 COMMUNITY SHUTTLE (Majority vote)

To see if the Town will raise and appropriate, or appropriate from available funds, the sum of \$24,500 to be expended by the Town Manager for the implementation of a town shuttle program, or take any other action relative thereto.

MOTION: Mrs. Rosenzweig moves that the Town transfer from Free Cash and appropriate \$24,500 to be expended by the Town Manager for the implementation of a town shuttle program.

MOTION CARRIES

ARTICLE 16 ACTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS BUDGET (Majority vote)

To see if the Town will raise and appropriate, or appropriate from available funds, a sum of money to defray the necessary expenses of the Acton Public School System, or take any other action relative thereto.

MOTION: Mrs. Harer moves that the Town appropriate \$25,753,782 to be expended by the Superintendent of Schools to fund the fiscal year 2010 Acton Public Schools budget, and to raise such amount,

\$25,322,782 be raised from taxation and \$431,000 be transferred from Free Cash.

MOTION CARRIES

ARTICLE 17 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS – DOUGLAS SCHOOL (BONDING) (Two-thirds vote)

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate, borrow or transfer from available funds, a sum of money to be expended under the direction of the School Committee for the purpose of paying costs associated with replacing the roof at the C.T. Douglas School, located at 21 Elm Street in Acton, Massachusetts and for the payment of all other costs incidental and related thereto, for which the Town may be eligible for a school construction grant from the Massachusetts School Building Authority ("MSBA"). The proposed repair project would materially extend the useful life of the school and preserve an asset that otherwise is capable of supporting the required educational program. The MSBA's grant program is a non-entitlement, discretionary program based on need, as determined by the MSBA, and any project costs the Town incurs in excess of any grant approved by and received from the MSBA shall be the sole responsibility of the Town. Any grant that the Town may receive from the MSBA for the Project shall not exceed the lesser of (1) 43.85 percent (%) of eligible, approved project costs, as determined by the MSBA, or (2) the total maximum grant amount determined by the MSBA. Or to take any other action relative thereto.

MOTION: Mrs. Harer moves that the Town appropriate the sum of six-hundred sixty-four thousand one-hundred two dollars (\$664,102) to be expended under the direction of the School Committee for the purpose of paying costs associated with replacing the roof at the C.T. Douglas School, located at 21 Elm Street in Acton, Massachusetts and for the payment of all other costs incidental and related thereto, for which the Town may be eligible for a school construction grant from the Massachusetts School

Building Authority ("MSBA"). The proposed repair project would materially extend the useful life of the school and preserve an asset that otherwise is capable of supporting the required educational program.

To meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Selectmen, is authorized to borrow said sum under M.G.L. Chapter 44, or any other enabling authority; that the Town acknowledges that the MSBA's grant program is a non-entitlement, discretionary program based on need, as determined by the MSBA, and any project costs the Town incurs in excess of any grant approved by and received from the MSBA shall be the sole responsibility of the Town;

Provided further that any grant that the Town may receive from the MSBA for the Project shall not exceed the lesser of (1) 43.85% of eligible, approved project costs, as determined by the MSBA, or (2) the total maximum grant amount determined by the MSBA, and that the amount of borrowing authorized pursuant to this vote shall be reduced by any amounts received from the MSBA prior to the issuance of any bonds or notes under this vote.

MOTION CARRIES UNANIMOUSLY

ARTICLE 18 ACTON-BOXBOROUGH REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT ASSESSMENT (Majority vote)

To see if the Town will raise and appropriate, or appropriate from available funds, a sum of money to defray the necessary expenses of the Acton-Boxborough Regional School District, or take any other action relative thereto.

MOTION: Mr. Chinitz moves that the Town raise and appropriate \$23,417,707 to fund the fiscal year 2010 assessment of the Acton-Boxborough Regional School District.

MOTION CARRIES

ARTICLE 19 MINUTEMAN REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT ASSESSMENT (Majority vote)

To see if the Town will raise and appropriate, or appropriate from available funds, a sum of money to defray the necessary expenses of the Minuteman Regional Vocational Technical School District, or take any other action relative thereto.

MOTION: Mr. Olmstead moves that the Town transfer from Free Cash and appropriate \$710,730 to fund the fiscal year 2010 assessment of the Minuteman Regional School District.

MOTION CARRIES UNANIMOUSLY

ARTICLE 20 AUTHORIZE STABILIZATION FUND – (Majority vote) MINUTEMAN REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

To see if the Town will approve the establishment of a stabilization fund by the Minuteman Regional Vocational Technical School District, beginning July 1, 2009, under MGL Chapter 71, Section 16G½, or take any other action relative thereto.

MOTION: Mr. Olmstead moves that the Town authorize the Minuteman Regional School District to establish a stabilization fund.

MOTION IS LOST

Motion to Adjourn Mrs. Rosenzweig moves to adjourn the Annual Town Meeting at 10:28 PM, until Tuesday, April 7, 2009 at the Acton-Boxborough Regional High School Auditorium at 7 PM

MOTION CARRIES

April 7, 2009

The Moderator, Mr. Mackenzie called meeting to order, Tuesday, April 7, 2009 at 7:06 PM.

The Moderator introduced the Chair of the Finance Committee, Steve Noone who then introduced the members, Pat Clifford, Doug Tindal, Bob Evans, Mary Ann Ashton, Pat Easterly, Bill Mullin, Kent Sharp, Vice Chair Herman Kabakoff and Maynard Brandon.

The Moderator introduced Heather Harer who spoke to honor Bill Ryan, Superintendent who will be retiring at the end of the 2009 school year after 34 years of service the last 9 years as the Superintendent.

ARTICLE 21 # TOWN STABILIZATION FUND (Two-thirds vote)

To see if the Town will raise and appropriate, or appropriate from available funds, a sum of money for a Stabilization Fund for the Town, or take any other action thereto.

MOTION: Mr. Nitschelm moves that the Town transfer from the Recycling and Transfer Station Enterprise Fund (formerly known as the North East Solid Waste Committee Enterprise Fund) and appropriate \$1,000,000 to be held as a Stabilization Fund under Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 40, Section 5B.

MOTION IS LOST

Declared 2/3 by Moderator*

*Town of Acton has excepted MGL CH 39 Sec 15 at its Annual Town Meeting April 2001,

Article 43 and the amended Bylaw 5A was approved by the Attorney General on Aug. 6, 2001.

(The Town Meeting Moderator is not required to count a 2/3 required vote.)

Mr. Mackenzie introduced the chairman of the Board of Selectmen, Lauren Rosenzweig, who then introduced Eva K. Taylor - Town Clerk, Stephen Anderson - Town Council, Steve Ledoux – Town Manager, Paulina Knibbe, Terra Friedrichs, Peter Berry, members of the Board of Selectmen and Andrew Magee Chair of the Board of Selectmen, who will be our outgoing selectmen.

ARTICLE 22 # USE OF FUNDS TO REDUCE THE TAX RATE (Majority vote)

To see if the Town will determine an amount of Free Cash and/or of the Recycling and Transfer Station Enterprise Fund which shall be used for the purpose of reducing the tax rate for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2009, or take any other action relative thereto.

MOTION: Mr. Calandrella moves to take no action

MOTION CARRIES UNANIMOUSLY

ARTICLE 23 # FINANCE COMMITTEE BUDGET (Majority vote)

To see if the Town will raise and appropriate, or appropriate from available funds, a sum of money to be expended by the Acton Finance Committee to support their activities for the fiscal year starting July 1, 2009, or take any other action relative thereto.

MOTION: Mr. Kadlec moves that the Town take no action.

MOTION CARRIES UNANIMOUSLY

ARTICLE 24 # RESOLUTION TO ADOPT A RESERVE POLICY

(Majority vote)

A Resolution of the Town of Acton related to the Adoption of a Reserve Policy

Whereas, the Town of Acton could increase transparency in the budgeting process;

Whereas, the Town has a history of conflicting and inconsistent use of its financial reserves;

Whereas, there is disagreement about the definition of "reserves;"

Whereas, depletion of reserves has led to two general overrides in the past six years;

Whereas, establishment of a Reserve Policy is recommended by Department of Revenue and is generally considered a sound financial planning tool;

Now, therefore it be resolved that:

The Acton Board of Selectmen and the Acton Finance Committee adopt a Reserve Policy.

MOTION: Mr. Kadlec moves that the Town take no action.

MOTION CARRIES

ARTICLE 25 # RESOLUTION TO PRESENT DEBT AND INTEREST COSTS AS A

(Majority vote) TOWN MEETING ARTICLE

A Resolution of the Town of Acton related to the appropriations for debt and interest

Whereas, the Town of Acton should increase transparency in the budgeting process;

Whereas, debt and interest costs, including those funded by debt exclusion overrides, have been included in municipal and school operating budgets;

Whereas, such debt and interest costs are determined at the time that the debt is incurred and are not part of yearly operations;

Whereas, such debt and interest costs generally decrease over time;

Whereas, inclusion of debt and interest in yearly operating budgets distorts the year-to-year operating budget comparisons:

Now, therefore be it resolved that:

All Municipal and Acton Public School debt and interest costs be presented as a separate Town Meeting Article.

MOTION: Mr. Logan moves that the Town adopt the non-binding Resolution as set forth in the article.

MOTION IS LOST

ARTICLE 26 # RESOLUTION TO PRESENT NEW CAPITAL PROJECTS TO

(Majority vote) TOWN MEETING

A Resolution of the Town of Acton related to the presentation of new capital projects to the Acton Town Meeting

Whereas, the Town of Acton should increase transparency in the budgeting process;

Whereas, some new capital items have been funded within Municipal and School operating budgets without specific review by Town Meeting;

Whereas, Town Meeting should be allowed to decide whether to support any capital project;

Whereas, inclusion of capital items in yearly operating budgets distorts the year-to-year operating budget comparisons;

Whereas, the Town of Acton currently employs a "bottom line" budget which allows some projects to be funded that have not been approved by Town Meeting;

Now, therefore be it resolved that:

1. A capital project be defined as costing more than \$25,000 and having a useful life of more than five years, the cost shall be defined as total out-of-pocket cost regardless of whether the item is paid for in one fiscal year or financed over time.
2. Yearly operating budgets shall not include capital projects.

MOTION: Mr. Logan moves that the Town adopt the non-binding Resolution as set forth in the article.

MOTION IS LOST

ARTICLE 27 COMMUNITY PRESERVATION PROGRAM –
(Majority vote) DIRECT APPROPRIATIONS FROM
FUND BALANCE

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate or set aside for later appropriation, and to authorize the Board of Selectmen and the Town Manager to expend or set aside, from the FY 2008 Community Preservation Fund balance as set forth herein, the following amounts for community preservation purposes, with such expenditures to be subject to conditions listed in the Article's Summary and to be further specified in award letters from the Community Preservation Committee, with each item considered a separate appropriation:

FY 2008 COMMUNITY PRESERVATION FUND BALANCE

FY 2008 Community Preservation Fund Revenues

Community Preservation Fund Surcharge Collected in FY 2008	\$ 708,031.00
State Community Preservation Trust Fund Receipt, October 2008	\$ 473,581.00

Other FY 2008 Community Preservation Fund Components

Interest Earned in FY 2008	\$ 101,371.00
Recapture of unspent previous years' project appropriations	\$ 15,751.00
Unencumbered FY 2008 Fund Balance	\$ 236,687.00

Total - FY 2008 Community Preservation Fund Balance	\$ 1,535,421.00
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APPROPRIATIONS

Purpose	Recommended Amounts
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Set Aside Appropriations for

A. Acquisition, creation, and preservation of open space, and its rehabilitation and restoration	\$ 425,000.00
B. Acquisition, preservation, rehabilitation and restoration of historic resources	\$ 44,000.00

Spending Appropriations

C. Civil War Exhibit - Enhancement	\$ 8,000.00
D. Historic Streetscape Restoration - Shade Trees in Historic Districts	\$ 10,000.00
E. Wright-Holden Farmlands - MHC Area Form	\$ 1,000.00
F. Town Cemeteries - National Register of Historic Places Listing	\$ 14,000.00
G. John Robbins House - Preservation Work	\$ 42,075.00
H. Pre-development Funds (Sachem Way), Acton Housing Authority	\$ 152,000.00
I. Capital Fund, Acton Housing Authority	\$ 150,000.00
J. Community Housing Program Fund	\$ 50,000.00

Administrative Spending Appropriation

K. A fund for CPC direct expenses and for reimbursing the Town of Acton for administrative services and operating expenses provided in support of the Community Preservation Committee	\$ 59,080.00
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Total Recommended Appropriations from FY 2008 Community Preservation Fund Balance	\$ 955,155.00
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Remaining FY 2008 fund balance	\$ 580,266.00
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And, whereas Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 44B requires that the Town appropriate for spending, or set-aside for future spending, from the 2008 Community Preservation Fund Revenues at least 10% for open space, 10% for historic preservation, and 10% for community housing.

And, whereas the recommended appropriations for open space, historic preservation, and community housing each meet or exceed 10% of the 2008 Community Preservation Fund Revenues.

And, whereas Town Meeting may vote to delete or reduce any of the recommended amounts.

Therefore, in the event that recommended amounts are deleted or reduced, vote to appropriate as a set-aside for future spending from the FY 2008 Community Preservation Fund Balance the minimum necessary amounts to allocate not less than 10% of the FY 2008 Community Preservation Fund Revenues for open space (\$118,161.20), not less than 10% of the FY 2008 Community Preservation Fund Revenues for historic preservation (\$118,161.20), and not less than 10% of the FY 2008 Community Preservation Fund Revenues (\$118,161.20) for community housing.

, or take any other action relative thereto.

MOTION: Mr. Sghia-Hughes moves that the Town transfer from the Community Preservation Fund and appropriate, or set aside for later appropriation, \$955,155 and that the Town Manager be authorized to expend or set aside amounts as set forth in the article and in compliance with conditions to be noted in the Community Preservation Committee's Award Letters.

Section G H J K held

Section G-John Robbins House – Preservation Work

Mr. Nitchelm moves to amend the motion under Article 27 to remove spending appropriation G \$42,075 for John Robbins House Preservation Work and to decrease the total appropriation from the FY2008 Community Preservation Fund Balance by the corresponding amount.

MOTION TO AMEND LOST

Section H-Pre-development Funds (Sachem Way)

Mr. Sullivan moves to amend the motion under Article 27 to remove spending appropriation H (\$152,000 for Pre-development Funds (Sachem Way) for the Acton Housing Authority) and to decrease the total appropriation from the FY2008 Community Preservation Fund Balance from \$955,155 to \$803,155.

Teller count on Amendment yes 129 no 138

MOTION TO AMEND LOST

Section J-Community Housing Program Fund

Section K-CPC Direct Expenses and for reimbursing the Town.

ORIGINAL MOTION CARRIES

ARTICLE 28 AMEND TOWN BYLAWS – (Majority vote) COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

To see if the Town will vote to amend Chapter S of the general Bylaws of the Town (the Community Preservation Committee Bylaw) as follows:

1. Delete the last paragraph of Section 1.1, which section defines the membership positions on the Community Preservation Committee, and replace it with the following new paragraph:

Three members at-large to be appointed by the Board of Selectmen who are residents of the Town of Acton, two members at-large to be appointed for one year and thereafter for a term of three years, and one member at-large to be appointed for two years and thereafter for a term of three years.

[The last paragraph of section 1.1 currently reads:

“Three members to be appointed by the Board of Selectmen who are citizens of the Town of Acton, two members to be appointed for one year and thereafter for a term of three years, and one member to be appointed for two years and thereafter for a term of three years.”]

2. Add a new Section 1.3 as follows:

In addition to the members of the Committee set forth in Section 1.1, the Committee may include up to two associate members who are residents of the Town of Acton. Associate members shall be appointed by the Board of Selectmen for one-year terms. The chairperson of the Committee may designate any such associate member to sit on the Committee for any particular matter(s) in the case of an absence, inability to act, or conflict of interest on the part of any member at-large, or in the event of a vacancy in a member at-large position on the Committee, until said vacancy is filled.

3. Delete section 2.2, which prescribes the election of officers of the Community Preservation Committee, and replace it with a new section 2.2 as follows:

At the first meeting of each fiscal year, the Committee shall elect a chairperson, a vice chairperson, and a clerk by majority vote. These officers shall not be associate members.

[Section 2.2 currently reads:

"At the first meeting of each fiscal year, the Committee shall elect a chairperson and a clerk by a majority vote."]

Or take any other action relative thereto.

MOTION: Mr. Benson moves that the Town adopt the general bylaw amendments as set forth in the Article.

Motion to Amend Dr Donald moves to amend to substitute the words "legal residents" for the word "residents" in all places it appears.

MOTION TO AMEND CARRIES UNANIMOUSLY

MOTION AS AMENDED CARRIES

Other Consent Calendar Articles and Motions

Article 29 Hear and Accept Reports

Move that the Town accepts the reports of the various Town Officers and Boards as set forth in the 2008 Town Report and that the Moderator calls for any other reports.

Article 30 Highway Reimbursement Program (Chapter 90)

Move that the Town Manager is authorized to accept Highway funds from all sources and that such funds are hereby appropriated for highway purposes.

Article 31 Insurance Proceeds

Move that the Town Manager is authorized to accept insurance proceeds of any name and nature whatsoever from all sources and such funds are hereby appropriated.

Article 32 Gifts or Grants

Move that the proceeds of any gifts or grants from any source accepted pursuant to Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 44, Section 53A, and any interest thereon, are hereby appropriated for the stated purposes of the gifts or grants, and may be expended with the approval of the Board of Selectmen or otherwise as stated in Section 53A.

Article 33 Federal and State Reimbursement Aid

Move that the Town Manager is authorized to accept federal and state reimbursement funds from all sources and that such funds are hereby appropriated for the purposes outlined by such reimbursement.

Article 34 Performance Bonds

Move that the Town appropriate the proceeds of any performance bonds, for the purposes stated in said bonds, available as a result of any default, non-performance or other covered conditions.

Article 35 Sale of Foreclosed Properties

Move in the words of the Article.

Article 36 Elderly Tax Relief – Reauthorize Chapter 73 of the Acts of 1986

Move that the Town continue to accept the provisions of Chapter 73 of the Acts of 1986, as amended by Chapter 126 of the Acts of 1988, providing for a 100% increase in certain property tax exemptions.

Article 37 Accept Trail Easement – Bruce Freeman Rail Trail

Move that the Town authorize the acquisition of the easements as set forth in the Article.

Article 38 Accept Trail Easement – Bay Circuit Rail Trail

Move that the Town authorize the acquisition of the easements as set forth in the Article.

Article 39 Amend Town Bylaws – Non-Criminal Disposition for Zoning Bylaw

Move that the Town adopt the general bylaw amendments as set forth in the Article.

Article 40 Redemption of Parcels in Tax Title Foreclosure by Installment Payment Agreement

Move in the words of the Article.

Article 41 Amend Town Bylaws – Redemption of Parcels in Tax Title Foreclosure by Installment Payment Agreement

Move that the Town adopt the general bylaw amendments as set forth in the Article.

Article 42 Amend Zoning Bylaw – Truck Rental as Accessory Use in Light Industrial District

Move that the Town adopt the zoning bylaw amendments as set forth in the Article

Article 43 Amend Zoning Bylaw – Corrections, Clarifications and Minor Amendments

Move that the Town adopt the zoning bylaw amendments as set forth in the Article.

MOTION: Mrs. Rosenzweig moves that the Town take up the fifteen articles in the Consent Calendar on pages 22 and 23 of the Warrant: Articles 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43.

Hold Articles 29 30 32 37 38 43

Remaining Consent Articles 31 33 34 35 36 39 40 41 42

CARRIES UNANIMOUSLY

Motion to Adjourn Mrs. Rosenzweig moves to adjourn the Annual Town Meeting at 10:26 PM, until Monday April 13, 2009 at the Acton-Boxborough Regional High School Auditorium at 7 PM

MOTION CARRIES

April 13, 2009 Town Meeting Continued

The Moderator, Mr. Mackenzie called meeting to order, Monday, April 13, 2009 at 7:02 PM.

The Moderator explained the order that the articles will be taken up for this evening. We will make a motion to move Article 48, and then Article 49 and 50, Grace issues, and then return to Article 29 which was the first article to be held from consent.

The Moderator introduced the Town Manager, Steve Ledoux who made the presentation for the 4th annual recipient of the Joseph A. Lalli Merit Award for outstanding work of a Town of Acton employee. This years Employee of the year award goes to Carol Steiner of the Council of Aging

Mr. Steve Ledoux also honored the First Public Safety Employee of the Year in honor of the untimely death of Firefighter Leo Hayes to the Leo J. Hayes Support Trust Fund.

The Moderator introduced Lauren Rosenzweig, Chair of the Board of Selectmen. Mrs. Rosenzweig recognized Andy Magee for his extraordinary service to the Town of Acton, who will be stepping down as a member of the Board of Selectmen.

Lauren Rosenzweig also spoke in recognition of Bill Ryan, Superintendent of School, who will be retiring at the end of the 2009 school year.

MOTION: Ms Friedrichs moves to take Article 48 out of order, to be taken up now.

MOTION CARRIES

ARTICLE 48 AMEND TOWN BYLAWS – QUORUM FOR THE (Majority vote) COMMISSION ON DISABILITIES

To see if the Town will vote to amend Chapter B of the General Bylaws of the Town to add the following Section B22:

B22. Commission on Disabilities

22.1 This Commission on Disabilities shall consist of nine (9) members, appointed by the Board of Selectmen, each serving a three (3) year term, pursuant to Charter § 4-2.

22.2 A quorum of the Commission on Disabilities shall consist of at least three (3) members in attendance. The Commission on Disabilities shall act by a majority vote of its members present; provided however, that if only a quorum of three (3) members is present, the vote must be unanimous to carry.

or take any other action relative thereto.

MOTION: Ms. Friedrichs moves that the Town adopt the general bylaw amendments as set forth in the article.

MOTION CARRIES UNANIMOUSLY

ARTICLE 49 SEWER BETTERMENT ABATEMENT FUNDING (Two-thirds vote)

To see if the Town, acting pursuant to General Bylaw § D10(1), will allocate to taxpayers at large, raise and appropriate or appropriate from available funds, and annually transfer to the sewer enterprise fund, a sum of money sufficient to cover, all or any portion of any sewer betterment abatement together with interest and costs thereon granted or ordered in connection with the matter W.R. Grace & Co.-Conn. v. Lauren Rosenzweig, et al., Middlesex Superior Court C. A. No. MICV-2006-01587, or take any other action relative thereto.

MOTION: Mrs. Knibbe moves, pursuant to General Bylaw § D10(1), to allocate to taxpayers at large the amount of \$1,500,000 together with all interest and costs thereon to cover a sewer betterment abatement granted in the

matter W.R. Grace & Co.-Conn. v. Lauren Rosenzweig, et al., Middlesex Superior Court C. A. No. MICV-2006-01587; to amortize the total thereof in annual installments to be appropriated from year-to-year until amortized in full; and to raise and appropriate and transfer to the sewer enterprise budget \$165,000 as the FY 2010 installment.

Mrs. Knibbe introduced Judge Kass to speak on this article.

Motion to allow Judge Kass to speak to Town Meeting.

MOTION TO SPEAK CARRIES UNANIMOUSLY

Mr. Paul Gabor Motion to extend debate on Article 49 to 7 minutes per speaker. (2/3 vote)

Declared 2/3 by moderator motion passed

MOTION CARRIES

Declared 2/3 by Moderator*

*Town of Acton has excepted MGL CH 39 Sec 15 at its Annual Town Meeting April 2001,

Article 43 and the amended Bylaw 5A was approved by the Attorney General on Aug. 6, 2001.

(The Town Meeting Moderator is not required to count a 2/3 required vote.)

ARTICLE 50 REDETERMINATION OF UNIFORM SEWER BETTERMENT UNIT (Majority vote)

To see if the Town will authorize the Board of Selectmen acting as the Town's Sewer Commissioners to re-determine pursuant to G.L. c. 83, § 15A the uniform unit fixed under G.L. c. 83, § 15 charged for the existing and potential sewer units served by the construction of the Middle Fort Pond Brook Sewer District plant, system and infrastructure, to fund all or any portion of any sewer betterment abatement together with interest and costs thereon granted or ordered in connection with the matter W.R. Grace & Co.-Conn. v. Lauren Rosenzweig, et al., Middlesex Superior Court C. A. No. MICV-2006-01587, and to assess, order, determine, certify, commit and cause to be collected the same in the manner prescribed by law, or take any other action relative thereto.

MOTION: Mrs. Knibbe moves that the Town take no action.

MOTION CARRIES UNANIMOUSLY

ARTICLE 29 * HEAR AND ACCEPT REPORTS (Majority vote)

To see if the Town will accept reports and hear and act upon the report of any committee chosen at any previous Town Meeting that has not already reported, or take any other action relative thereto.

MOTION: Mr. Magee moves that the Town accept the reports of the various Town Officers and Boards as set forth in the 2008 Town Report and that the Moderator calls for any other reports.

Held from consent

MOTION CARRIES

ARTICLE 30 * HIGHWAY REIMBURSEMENT PROGRAM (CHAPTER 90) (Majority vote)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or appropriate from available funds, a sum of money for highway improvements under the authority of Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 90, and any other applicable laws, or take any other action relative thereto.

MOTION: Mr. Magee moves that the Town Manager is authorized to accept Highway funds from all sources and that such funds are hereby appropriated for highway purposes.

Held from consent

MOTION CARRIES

ARTICLE 31 * INSURANCE PROCEEDS (Majority vote)

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the proceeds of any insurance policy reimbursements of costs incurred as a result of any covered loss, including without limitation any liability insurance, property insurance, casualty insurance, workers' compensation insurance, health insurance, disability insurance, automobile insurance, police and fire injury and medical costs, and any other insurance of any name and nature whatsoever, or take any other action relative thereto.

MOTION: Mr. Berry moves that the Town Manager is authorized to accept insurance proceeds of any name and nature whatsoever from all sources and such funds are hereby appropriated.

CONSENT MOTION CARRIES UNANIMOUSLY

ARTICLE 32 * GIFTS OR GRANTS
(Majority vote)

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the proceeds of any gifts or grants accepted pursuant to Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 44, Section 53A, and any interest thereon, and that, consistent with the requirements of Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 40, Section 4A, the Board of Selectmen or Town Manager are authorized to enter into an agreement or agreements on behalf of the Town, on such terms and conditions as the Board of Selectmen or the Town Manager may determine, for the stated purposes of the gifts or grants, or take any other action relative thereto.

MOTION: Mr. Berry moves that the proceeds of any gifts or grants from any source accepted pursuant to Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 44, Section 53A, and any interest thereon, are hereby appropriated for the stated purposes of the gifts or grants, and may be expended with the approval of the Board of Selectmen or otherwise as stated in Section 53A.

Held from consent

Motion to Amend Ms Friedrichs moves to amend the motion by adding; provided that the gift or grant does not result in unfunded, recurring annual Town expenditures not within the scope of the approved municipal, school or district budget as applicable.

MOTION TO AMEND LOST

ORIGINAL MOTION CARRIES

ARTICLE 33 * FEDERAL AND STATE REIMBURSEMENT AID
(Majority vote)

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate any Federal Government and State Government reimbursement for costs incurred as a result of any declared emergencies or other occurrence, and that, consistent with the requirements of Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 40, Section 4A, the Board of Selectmen or Town Manager are authorized to enter into an agreement or agreements on behalf of the Town, on such terms and conditions as the Board of Selectmen or the Town Manager may determine, or take any other action relative thereto.

MOTION: Mr. Magee moves that the Town Manager is authorized to accept federal and state reimbursement funds from all sources and that such funds are hereby appropriated for the purposes outlined by such reimbursement.

CONSENT MOTION CARRIES UNANIMOUSLY

ARTICLE 34 * PERFORMANCE BONDS
(Majority vote)

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the proceeds of any performance bonds for the purposes stated in said bonds available as a result of any default, non-performance or other covered conditions, or take any other action relative thereto.

MOTION: Mr. Berry moves that the Town appropriate the proceeds of any performance bonds, for the purposes stated in said bonds, available as a result of any default, non-performance or other covered conditions.

CONSENT MOTION CARRIES UNANIMOUSLY

ARTICLE 35 * SALE OF FORECLOSED PROPERTIES
(MAJORITY VOTE)

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to dispose of foreclosed properties acquired by the Town for nonpayment of taxes in accordance with the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws, or take any other action relative thereto.

MOTION: Mr. Magee moves in the words of the Article.

CONSENT MOTION CARRIES UNANIMOUSLY

ARTICLE 36 * ELDERLY TAX RELIEF
(Majority vote) REAUTHORIZE CHAPTER 73 OF THE ACTS OF 1986

To see if the Town will vote to continue to accept the provisions of Chapter 73 of the Acts of 1986, as amended by Chapter 126 of the Acts of 1988, providing for a 100% increase in certain property tax exemptions, or take any other action relative thereto.

MOTION: Ms. Friedrichs moves that the Town continue to accept the provisions of Chapter 73 of the Acts of 1986, as amended by Chapter 126 of the Acts of 1988, providing for a 100% increase in certain property tax exemptions.

CONSENT MOTION CARRIES UNANIMOUSLY

**ARTICLE 37 * ACCEPT TRAIL EASEMENT – BRUCE
FREEMAN RAIL TRAIL
(Two-thirds vote)**

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to acquire by purchase, gift, eminent domain or otherwise and to accept a deed of an easement interest for purposes of establishing and maintaining a paved trail for public non-motorized use and emergency vehicle access, on such terms and conditions as the Selectmen may determine, on, across, over, and/or under land owned by The Bravery Realty Trust and located at 144 Great Road in Acton. Said easement is shown as a "20-foot Wide Pedestrian Easement" on a plan of land entitled "Plan of Land in Acton, Massachusetts (Middlesex County) for: The Bravery Realty Trust, scale: 1" = 20', June 10, 2008" that is on file with the Acton Planning Department and recorded in the Middlesex South District Registry of Deeds as Plan No. 39 of 2009. And further see if the Town will raise, appropriate, transfer from available funds or accept gifts for this purpose, or take any other action relative thereto.

MOTION: Mr. Magee moves that the Town authorize the acquisition of the easements as set forth in the Article.

Held from consent

MOTION CARRIES UNANIMOUSLY

**ARTICLE 38 * ACCEPT TRAIL EASEMENT – BAY
CIRCUIT TRAIL
(Two-thirds vote)**

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to acquire by purchase, gift, eminent domain or otherwise and to accept a deed of an easement interest for purposes of establishing and maintaining a trail for public non-motorized use, on such terms and conditions and in a final location or locations as the Selectmen may determine, on, across, over, and/or under a strip of land at 908 Main Street in Acton between parcels 6 and 8 shown on page C-5 of the 2007 edition of the Acton Town Atlas, and further see if the Town will raise, appropriate, transfer from available funds or accept gifts for this purpose, or take any other action relative thereto.

MOTION: Mr. Magee moves that the Town authorize the acquisition of the easements as set forth in the Article.

Held from consent

MOTION CARRIES UNANIMOUSLY

**ARTICLE 39 * AMEND TOWN BYLAWS –
(Majority vote) NON-CRIMINAL DISPOSITION FOR
ZONING BYLAW**

To see if the Town will vote to amend Chapter E of the General Bylaws of the Town by deleting paragraph 19 of Chapter E, Section E45 (Non-Criminal Disposition) and replacing it as follows:

"Chapter M – Zoning Bylaw; enforcing persons: Zoning Enforcement Officer. Fine: \$300 for each offense. Each day that a violation continues shall constitute a separate offense."

[Note – this paragraph currently reads:

Chapter M - Zoning Bylaw; enforcing person – Zoning Enforcement Officer – Fine \$25.00 first offense; \$50.00 second offense; \$100.00 each subsequent offense.]

, or take any other action relative thereto.

MOTION: Mrs. Rosenzweig moves that the Town adopt the general bylaw amendments as set forth in the Article.

CONSENT MOTION CARRIES UNANIMOUSLY

**ARTICLE 40 * REDEMPTION OF PARCELS IN TAX
TITLE FORECLOSURE
(Majority vote)**

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Treasurer to enter into written installment payment agreements with persons claiming an interest in parcels in tax title foreclosure for the redemption of any such parcels on terms and conditions as the Treasurer may determine in the Treasurer's reasonable discretion, subject to approval of the Land Court in accordance with the requirements of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 60, Section 68.

or take any other action relative thereto.

MOTION: Mr. Berry moves in the words of the Article.

CONSENT MOTION CARRIES UNANIMOUSLY

**ARTICLE 41 * AMEND TOWN BYLAWS – REDEMPTION OF PARCELS IN TAX
(Majority vote) TITLE FORECLOSURE BY INSTALLMENT PAYMENT AGREEMENT**

To see if the Town will vote to amend Chapter B ("Town Agencies and Officers") of the General Bylaws of the Town by adding a new Section B22 entitled "Tax Title Payment Plans" as follows:

The Treasurer shall have the authority to enter into written installment payment agreements with persons entitled to redeem parcels in tax title on such terms and conditions as the Treasurer may determine in the Treasurer's reasonable discretion and in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 60, Section 62A. This bylaw shall apply to all taxpayers with parcels in tax title in the Town of Acton. All installment payment agreements shall comply with the following minimum requirements:

1. The installment payment agreement shall have a maximum term of five (5) years;
2. The installment payment agreement may include a waiver of up to 50% of the interest that has accrued in the tax title account, but only if the taxpayer complies with the terms of the agreement (no taxes or collection costs may be waived); and
3. The installment payment agreement must state the amount of the payment due from the taxpayer at the time of execution of the agreement, which must be at least 25% of the amount needed to redeem the parcel at the inception of the agreement.

or take any other action relative thereto.

MOTION: Mrs. Knibbe moves that the Town adopt the general bylaw amendments as set forth in the article.

CONSENT MOTION CARRIES UNANIMOUSLY

ARTICLE 42 * AMEND ZONING BYLAW – TRUCK RENTAL AS ACCESSORY USE IN THE LIGHT INDUSTRIAL (LI) DISTRICT

(Two-thirds vote)

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Zoning Bylaw, section 3.8.2 (Accessory Uses Permitted in the Office, Business, and Industrial Districts) by inserting a new sub-section 3.8.2.8 as follows:

- 8.8.8.8 In the Light Industrial District, the rental of trucks with a gross vehicle weight not greater than 26,000 pounds, provided that not more than five trucks for rental use shall be parked on site at any one time and that no such truck shall be parked on site for more than 72 consecutive hours.

, or take any other action relative thereto.

MOTION: Mr. Yacouby moves that the Town adopt the zoning bylaw amendment as set forth in the article.

CONSENT MOTION CARRIES UNANIMOUSLY

ARTICLE 43 * AMEND ZONING BYLAW – CORRECTIONS, CLARIFICATIONS AND MINOR AMENDMENTS

(Two-thirds vote)

To see if the Town will vote to amend the zoning bylaw as follows:

1. In Section 1 (Authority, Purpose, Definitions and Applicability) delete the lead paragraph of section 1.4 and replace it with a new paragraph as follows:
 - 1.4 Applicability - All LOTS and parcels of land in the Town of Acton and all BUILDINGS, STRUCTURES and other improvements thereon shall be subject to the regulations, restrictions and requirements established in this Bylaw. Except when specifically referred to or stated otherwise, this Bylaw shall not apply to STREETS and appurtenances and easements thereto; to railroad rights of way; to public bicycle, pedestrian, and multi-use paths funded, laid out, or constructed by the Town of Acton, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, or the Federal Government; or to any BUILDING, STRUCTURE or USE of land, including grading, filling, and excavating, which is associated with a public sewer collection system owned or operated by the Town of Acton.

[Note: The lead paragraph of section 1.4 currently reads as follows:

- 1.4 Applicability - All LOTS and parcels of land in the Town of Acton and all BUILDINGS, STRUCTURES and other improvements thereon shall be subject to the regulations, restrictions and requirements established in this Bylaw. Except when specifically referred to or stated otherwise, this Bylaw shall not apply to STREETS, appurtenances and easements thereto, to railroad rights of way, or to any BUILDING, STRUCTURE or USE of land, including grading, filling, and excavating, which is associated with a public sewer collection system owned or operated by the Town of Acton.]

2. In Section 3.5.14 (Use Definition of Building Trade Shop) insert before "or similar occupation" the following:

"building cleaning service,".

[Note: Section 3.5.14 currently reads as follows:

3.5.14 Building Trade Shop – An establishment for use by the practitioner of a building trade such as a carpenter, welder, plumber, electrician, builder, mason, landscaping contractor, lawn care service, or similar occupation.]

And insert in the table of Section 5.5A.1 (Maximum Floor Area of Businesses and Industries in Village Districts) the following footnote (1) in line 3.5.14 Building Trade Shop and columns NAV, SAV, and WAV:

(1) The maximum NET FLOOR AREA for building cleaning services shall be 3,000 square feet.

3. In section 10.6 (Outdoor Lighting Regulations for Site Plan Special Permits), insert in the 2nd line of subsection 10.6.2.2.a), the word “additionally” before the word ‘SHIELDED’.

[Note: Sub-section 10.6.2.2.a) currently reads:

10.6.2.2.a)Any LUMINAIRE whose distance from a LOT line is less than three times its height (3xH) shall be SHIELDED so that all DIRECT LIGHT cast in the direction of STREETS, or abutting LOTS that are in Residential or Conservation USE, is cut off at an angle no more than 70 degrees measured from a vertical line directly below the LUMINAIRE (Figure 2). This requirement shall apply to all sides of the LUMINAIRE that emit light toward a LOT line that is less than 3xH away from the LUMINAIRE. The cut-off may be accomplished either by the LUMINAIRE photometric properties, or by a supplementary external shield.]

, or take any other action relative thereto.

MOTION: Mr. Clymer moves that the Town adopt the zoning bylaw amendments as set forth in the article.

Held from consent

MOTION CARRIES UNANIMOUSLY

ARTICLE 44 ACCEPT SIDEWALK EASEMENTS AND STREET RELOCATION AND LAYOUT

(Two-thirds vote)

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to acquire by purchase, gift, eminent domain or otherwise and to accept deeds of easement interests or sidewalks along Prospect Street, High Street and Main Street, for all purposes which streets, sidewalks and ways are now or hereafter used in the Town, on such terms and conditions as the Selectmen may determine and in a final location or locations as the Selectmen may determine, on,

across, over, and/or under the following land and relocate a portion of Main Street, by acquiring and/or taking parcels 2C, 2D, and 4A, and by discontinuing, abandoning and/or conveying, as necessary, parcel 1A, on a plan all as further described below, to accept a deed of a fee simple or easement interest, for all purposes which streets, sidewalks and ways are now or hereafter used in the Town, on such terms and conditions as the Selectmen may determine and in a final location or locations as the Selectmen may determine, on, across, over, and/or under the following land:

A. Prospect Street (from Central Street to Main Street):

1. Land n/f of Thomas and Jana Bull of 21 Central Street (Town Atlas Map G-2A Parcel 51),
2. Land n/f of Richard Paul and Phyllis C. Bursaw of 16 Prospect Street (Town Atlas Map G-2A Parcel 31-1),
3. Land n/f of From Karen B.V. Dutton of 18 Prospect Street (Town Atlas Map G-2A Parcel 31),
4. Land n/f of Brian H. and Cydney R. Cotter of 22 Prospect Street (Town Atlas Map G-2A Parcel 24),
5. Land n/f of Michael A. Euele and Diann M. Oster of 28 Prospect Street (Town Atlas Map G-2A Parcel 19),
6. Land n/f of Jason Temple of 34 Prospect Street (Town Atlas Map G-2A Parcel 11),
7. Land n/f of Robert N. and Lisa K. Fitzgerald of 38 Prospect Street (Town Atlas Map G-2A Parcel 6),
8. Land n/f of Thomas E. and Charlotte E. Wetherbee of 44 Prospect Street (Town Atlas Map G-2A Parcel 7),
9. Land n/f of Jay A. and Barbara B. Estabrook of 50 Prospect Street (Town Atlas Map G-2A Parcel 3),
10. Land n/f of Michael Story Bush of 54 Prospect Street (Town Atlas Map G-2A Parcel 1),
11. Land n/f of Geraldo O. Miranda of 60 Prospect Street (Town Atlas Map G-2 Parcel 151),

B. High Street (from Parker Street to Dunham Lane):

1. Land n/f of Michael and Sharen Crooks of 192 Parker Street (Town Atlas Map I-3 Parcel 133),
2. Land n/f of Gerald Nadler and Lorraine Ledford of 230 High Street (Town Atlas Map I-3 Parcel 134),
3. Land n/f of Don & Gayle Johnson of 1 Cindy Lane, an easement along their entire frontage on High Street for 1 Cindy Lane, 236 High Street and Cindy Lane (Town Atlas Map I-3 Parcels 134-1 and 144, respectively),
4. Land n/f of Nancy W. Rader of 248 High Street (Town Atlas Map J-3 Parcel 7),

- D. High Street (from Audubon Hill Emergency Access to 46 High Street)
1. Land n/f of the Audubon Hill North Condominium (Town Atlas Map H-3A Parcel 59),
 2. Land n/f of Vesa M. and Miriam J. Kuosmanen of 30 High Street (Town Atlas Map H-3A Parcel 58),
 3. Land n/f of Royce A. and Susanne J. Fuller of 40 High Street (Town Atlas Map H-3B Parcel 10),
 4. Land n/f of Mary D. and Marc A. Kuta of 46 High Street (Town Atlas Map H-3B Parcel 18),

D. Main Street (from Post Office Square to Great Road):

1. Land n/f of the Acton Water District Land (Town Atlas Map E-4 Parcel 4) as shown on a plan entitled "Easement Plan of Land, Main Street (Route 27) in Acton, Massachusetts as Laid Out by Order of the Board of Selectmen, 2008", Scale 1"=40'".
2. To acquire and/or take Parcel 2C as shown on a plan entitled "Plan of the Relocation of a Portion of Main Street (Route 27) in Acton, Massachusetts, as Laid Out by Order of the Board of Selectmen, 2008", containing approximately 3,191 square feet, more or less, of land owned by Brewster Conant.
3. To acquire and/or take Parcel 2D as shown on a plan entitled "Plan of the Relocation of a Portion of Main Street (Route 27) in Acton, Massachusetts, as Laid Out by Order of the Board of Selectmen, 2008", containing approximately 2,855 square feet, more or less, of land owned by Brewster Conant.
4. To acquire and/or take Parcel 4A as shown on a plan entitled "Plan of the Relocation of a Portion of Main Street (Route 27) in Acton, Massachusetts, as Laid Out by Order of the Board of Selectmen, 2008", containing approximately 7,093 square feet, more or less, of land owned by Brewster Conant.
5. And to discontinue, abandon, and/or convey whatever right, title and interest the Town may have in a portion of the 1927 County Layout of Main Street (Route 27) on the northerly side of Main Street opposite Brook Street shown as Parcel 1A on a plan entitled "Plan of the Relocation of a Portion of Main Street (Route 27) in Acton, Massachusetts, as Laid Out by Order of the Board of Selectmen, 2008", containing approximately 5,810 square feet, more or less, of land.

The acquisition and discontinuance of the above-mentioned Main Street parcels will reconfigure this portion

of the town way known as Main Street at the intersection of Brook Street, as laid out and relocated by the Board of Selectmen according to said Plan and as described in more detail in the Order of Layout and Relocation, and further see if the Town will raise, appropriate, transfer from available funds or accept gifts for this purpose, or take any other action relative thereto.

MOTION: Mrs. Knibbe moves that the Town authorize the acquisition of the easements as set forth in the Article and that the Town accept a portion of Main Street, as relocated by the Board of Selectmen, authorize the Board of Selectmen to acquire and/or take by eminent domain Parcels 2C, 2D and 4A, and authorize the Board of Selectmen to discontinue and dispose of Parcel 1A, all as shown on the Plan of the Relocation of a Portion of Main Street as referenced in and as set forth in the Article.

Hold Section D-Main Street (from Post Office Square to Great Road)

Section A Prospect Street (from Central Street to Main Street):

Section B High Street (from Parker Street to Dunham Lane)

Section C High Street (from Audubon Hill Emergency Access to 46 High Street):

MOTION CARRIES UNANIMOUSLY

Section D-Main Street (from Post Office Square to Great Road) MOTION Carries

Declared 2/3 by Moderator*

*Town of Acton has excepted MGL CH 39 Sec 15 at its Annual Town Meeting April 2001,

Article 43 and the amended Bylaw 5A was approved by the Attorney General on Aug. 6, 2001.

(The Town Meeting Moderator is not required to count a 2/3 required vote.)

ARTICLE 45 SCHOOL STREET PLAYING FIELDS LEASE
(Majority vote)

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into a lease, for one dollar a year and on such other terms and conditions as the Selectmen may determine, of approximately 14.6 acres of open space farmland located within the southerly portion of Lot 6 on Acton's Assessors Map H-4, which land is shown on plans

that are on file with the Town Manager's office, as provided in Chapter 286 of the Acts of 2008;

or take any other action relative thereto.

MOTION: Mr. Magee moves that the Town authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into a lease of land as set forth in the article.

MOTION CARRIES UNANIMOUSLY

**ARTICLE 46 SCHOOL STREET PLAYING FIELDS
MITIGATION
(Majority vote) UTILIZING WETHERBEE LAND**

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to utilize Lot 173 on Acton Assessor's Map G-4, also known as the Wetherbee land, for any agricultural mitigation that is necessary in return for the School Street playing fields lease as required under Chapter 286 of the Acts of 2008 and to restrict that land as necessary for such mitigation;

or take any other action relative thereto.

MOTION: Mr. Magee moves that the Town authorize the Board of Selectmen to utilize all or any portion of Lot 173 on Acton Assessor's Map G-4, also known as the Wetherbee land, for any agricultural mitigation that is necessary in return for the School Street playing fields lease as required under Chapter 286 of the Acts of 2008 and to enter into related agreements and restrict that land as necessary for such mitigation.

MOTION CARRIES UNANIMOUSLY

**ARTICLE 47 AMEND TOWN BYLAWS – DEMOLITION OF HISTORICALLY OR ARCHITECTURALLY SIGNIFICANT BUILDINGS
(MAJORITY VOTE)**

To see if the Town will vote to amend Chapter N of the General Bylaws of the Town, Procedure for the Demolition of Historically or Architecturally Significant Buildings, as set forth below, or take any other action relative thereto:

Section N3, SubSection 3.1:

Delete the word "Upon" at the beginning of the first sentence and replace with the words "Within seven (7) days of";

Add a new sentence between the first sentence and the second sentence as follows:

"The Building Commissioner shall also notify the Commission (by email or similarly expedient means) when such a permit has been sent to the Commission for consideration."

Section N3, SubSection 3.1:

Delete the words "seven (7)" in the first sentence and replace with the words "fourteen (14)".

Section N3, SubSection 3.3:

Delete the words "fifteen (15)" in the second sentence and replace with the words "ten (10)".

Section N3, SubSection 3.5:

Delete the words "twenty one (21)" in the first sentence and replace with the words "ten (10)";

Delete the words "at least six (6)" in the first sentence and replace with the words "eighteen (18)";

Before the period at the end of the paragraph, add the words: "for any significant building that falls into one of the categories identified in Section 2.3.a. of this bylaw, or until twelve (12) months after the date of such determination by the Commission for any significant building that falls into one of the categories identified in Sections 2.3.b. or 2.3.c. of this bylaw".

Section N4, SubSection 4.2:

Delete the words "two (2)" in the first sentence and replace with the words "three (3)";

Before the period at the end of the first sentence, add the words: ", unless authorized by the Commission pursuant to Section 4.4".

Section N4, (new) SubSection 4.4:

Add a new SubSection 4.4 as follows:

4.4 At any time, the owner of property on which a significant building has been voluntarily demolished in violation of Sections 4.2 or 4.3 of this bylaw can apply in writing to the Commission for an exemption to the provisions of Sections 4.2 or 4.3, such application to state with particularity the facts and circumstances to prove to the Commission that an exemption is warranted due to (i) exigent circumstances or disasters beyond the owner's (and, if different than the owner, the permit applicant's) control, or (ii) documentation evidencing the owner's intent to complete a faithful restoration of the demolished building. The Commis-

sion may in its discretion determine that the written request states sufficient grounds for exemption from the provisions of Sections 4.2 or 4.3 and authorize an exemption from this bylaw. Any exemption granted pursuant to this Section 4.4 shall apply only to the voluntary demolition for which the owner submitted a written exemption request, and not for any subsequent voluntary demolition to which this bylaw would otherwise apply.

Section N7:

Add a new Section N7, as follows:

N7. Severability

The sections, paragraphs, sentences, clauses and phrases of this bylaw are severable, and if any phrase, clause, sentence, paragraph or section of this bylaw shall be declared unconstitutional or otherwise invalid by the valid judgment or decree of any court of competent jurisdiction, such unconstitutionality or invalidity shall not affect any of the remaining phrase, clauses, sentences, paragraphs and sections of this bylaw.

MOTION: Ms. Friedrichs moves that the Town adopt the general bylaw amendments as set forth in the article.

MOTION CARRIES UNANIMOUSLY

Ms Rosenzweig moves to dissolve the Annual Town Meeting at 10:06 PM.

Tellers for Town Meeting

Karen Dudziak	Bob Ferrara
Tom Geagan	Deena Ferrara
Jack Whittier	Joan Gardner
Judy Wolff	Connie Huber
Jeff Bergart	Bob Ingram
Ann Chang	Herman Kabakoff
Belle Chaote	Anne Kadlec
Brewster Conant	Charles Kadlec
Al Duskocil	Marilyn Peterson
Lois Duskocil	Gail Sawyer

ABSTRACT OF THE SPECIAL TOWN MEETING HELD TUESDAY, JUNE 23, 2009, 7:00 P.M.

Acton-Boxborough Regional High School
Auditorium
Number of Registered voters attending
Special Town Meeting
June 23, 2009 - 416

The Moderator, Mr. Mackenzie, called the Special Town Meeting to order on Tuesday, June 23, 2009, at 7:05 PM.

Mr. Mackenzie introduced the Chairman of the Board of Selectmen, Paulina Knibbe, who then introduced the members of the Board of Selectmen, Town Manager, Town Counsel, and the Town Clerk.

The Moderator introduced Herman Kabakoff, Chair of the Finance Committee, who then introduced the members of the committee.

Mr. Mackenzie introduced Mr. Ned Perry, Moderator of the Town of Concord, who attended the meeting to observe.

Mr. MacKenzie gave an overview of the process of Town Meeting. He then explained some basic rules and parliamentary procedure of the Town Meeting as found in the back of the warrant.

Debate time limit would remain as was for the Annual Town Meeting which was up to 12 minutes; Pro and Con argument up to 2 min to present argument; Amendments up to 5 minutes to back amendment; Time will be displayed on the screen. Questions will be taken at separate microphones. One question per person, in one part, not in many parts. Answers to question should be directed to a particular Board or Committee or person.

The Moderator explained that motions will be displayed on the screen for the audience as it has been in the past. He explained to Town Meeting that they would be voting on the motions that are read, not the articles as written in the warrant.

The Moderator thanked Mr. Dore' Hunter, Deputy Moderator, for all his help in preparation for the meeting.

Mr. MacKenzie explained how the Consent Calendar is voted and proceeded to read the articles on the Consent Calendar: If a consent article is held, it would be taken up after the completion of the remainder of the consent articles.

Article 6 Amend Zoning Bylaw – Definition of Manufacturing

Move that the Town adopt the zoning bylaw amendments as set forth in the Article.

Article 7 Amend Town Charter – Commission on Disabilities

Move that the Town adopt the Charter amendments as set forth in the Article.

Article 8 Amend Town Bylaws – Corrections and Clarifications

Move that the Town adopt the general bylaw amendments as set forth in the Article.

Article 9 Accept Sidewalk Easement – 442 Massachusetts Avenue

Move that the Town authorize the acquisition of the easement as set forth in the Article.

Article 10 Accept Land Gift – Conant Street

Move that the Town accept the gift of land as set forth in the Article.

Article 11 Transfer of Funds for Overlay Deficits

Move that the Town transfer \$220,000 from Overlay Surplus for the purpose of funding overlay deficits.

CONSENT MOTION: Ms. Knibbe moves that the Town take up the six articles in the Consent Calendar identified on page 3 of the Warrant: Articles 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, and 11

Articles 10 and 11 held from consent.

Remaining consent articles 6, 7, 8 and 9

MOTION CARRIES UNANIMOUSLY

ARTICLE 1 BORROWING AUTHORIZATION – TUTTLE-FLINT SEWER DISTRICT EXTENSION

(Two-thirds vote)

To see if the Town will raise and appropriate, appropriate from available funds, or borrow a sum of money to be expended by the Town Manager for the purpose of financing the planning, design, and construction of sewers and related infrastructure for the Tuttle-Flint Extension of the Middle Fort Pond Brook Sewer District including without limitation, all costs and any related expenses thereof, as defined in Section 1 of Chapter 29C of the General Laws; or take any other action relative thereto.

MOTION: Mrs. Rosenzweig moves that the Town appropriate \$1,707,010 for the purpose of financing the planning, design and construction of sewers and related infrastructure for the Tuttle-Flint Extension of the Middle Fort Pond Brook Sewer District, including without limitation all costs thereof as defined in Section 1 of Chapter 29C of the General Laws; that to meet this appropriation the Treasurer with the approval of the Board of Selectmen is authorized to borrow \$1,707,010 and issue bonds or notes therefor under Chapter 44 of the General Laws and/or Chapter 29C of the General Laws; that the Treasurer with the approval of the Board of Selectmen is authorized to borrow all or a portion of such amount from the Massachusetts Water Pollution Abatement Trust established pursuant to Chapter 29C and in connection therewith to enter into a loan agreement and/or security agreement with the Trust and otherwise to contract with the Trust and the Department of Environmental Protection with respect to such loan and for any federal or state aid available for the project or for the financing thereof; and that the Town Manager is authorized to enter into a Project Regulatory Agreement with the Department of Environmental Protection, to expend all funds available for the project and to take any other actions necessary to carry out the project.

Motion to Amend: Mr. Margolis moves to amend the motion by inserting the phrase “, except that Tuttle Drive and Torrington Lane shall be excluded from such Extension,” after the words “Sewer District.”

MOTION TO AMEND DECLARED LOST BY MODERATOR

2/3 vote to pass

Original motion Teller count
Favor – 191 Opposed - 162
ORIGINAL MOTION LOST

ARTICLE 2 AMEND ZONING BYLAW – CHILD CARE FACILITIES IN RESIDENTIAL DISTRICTS

(Two-thirds vote)

To see if the Town will vote to amend the zoning bylaw as follows:

1. In Section 5 – Dimensional Regulations, delete subsection 5.3.9 and replace it with a new subsection 5.3.9 as follows:
 - 9.9.9 Child Care Facilities in Residential Zoning Districts - In addition to the standards set forth in the Table of Standard Dimensional Regulations, the following standards shall apply to Child Care Facilities located in Residential Zoning Districts:

	R-2	R-4	R-8 & R-8/4	R-10 & R-10/8	R-A & R-AA	VR
Minimum OPEN SPACE not including outdoor play areas	35%		35%	35%	35%	35%
Maximum FLOOR AREA RATIO	0.10	0.07	0.04	0.03	0.20	0.17
Maximum NET FLOOR AREA	2500	3500	5000	5000	5000	2500
	sq. ft.	sq. ft.	sq. ft.	sq. ft.	sq. ft.	sq. ft.

[Note: Subsection 5.3.9 currently reads as follows:

5.3.9 Child Care Facilities in Residential Districts – In addition to the standards set forth in the Table of Standard Dimensional Regulations, the following standards shall apply to child care facilities located in Residential Districts:

Minimum OPEN SPACE not including outdoor play areas - 35 percent;

Maximum FLOOR AREA RATIO - 0.10;

Maximum NET FLOOR AREA - 1000 square feet.]

2. In Section 6.3 – Minimum Parking Space Requirements by USE, add a footnote (1) to section 6.3.1.5 – Child Care Facility, and place the footnote at the bottom of the table after section 6.3.1.17 as follows:

- (1) The number of parking spaces for a Child Care Facility in a Residential Zoning District shall not exceed the minimum requirement.

, or take any other action relative thereto.

MOTION: Mr. Niemyski moves that the Town adopt the zoning bylaw amendments as set forth in the Article.

**MOTION CARRIES
DECLARED 2/3 BY MODERATOR***

*Town of Acton has excepted MGL CH 39 Sec 15 at its Annual Town Meeting April 2001,

Article 43 and the amended Bylaw 5A was approved by the Attorney General on Aug. 6, 2001.

(The Town Meeting Moderator is not required to count a 2/3 required vote.)

ARTICLE 3 RESOLUTION – SOUTH ACTON COMMUTER RAIL STATION

(Majority vote)

WHEREAS, the MBTA is making improvements to the Fitchburg Commuter Rail line to improve service, including reconstructing the South Acton Train Station; and,

WHEREAS, the Acton Board of Selectmen appointed the South Acton Train Station Advisory Committee to review the proposed Station changes, solicit public comment and make recommendations to the Board; and,

WHEREAS, the Advisory Committee advised the Board of Selectmen that the MBTA's proposed design for changes to the South Acton Station: will create an unsightly system of ramps that are out of character with the Historic Nature of South Acton; will create a Station that will limit accessibility to the disabled; is generally unfriendly to pedestrian and bike riders; cuts off pedestrian access from the South side of the tracks; and will lengthen the commuting time of all MBTA patrons using the station.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as follows:

1. Acton Town Meeting supports the alternative design for the Station reconstruction as presented at the Meeting; and,

2. Acton Town Meeting requests that the Board of Selectmen take every action the Board considers appropriate to have the MBTA revise its design plans for the South Acton Station to have a Station that respects the Historic Nature and Integrity of South Acton and improves the access for all patrons of the MBTA.

MOTION: Mr. Berry moves that the Town adopt the non-binding Resolution as set forth in the article, except that the following phrase replace the last two paragraphs numbered 1 and 2 in their entirety: "Acton Town Meeting requests that the Board of Selectmen take every action the Board considers appropriate to have the MBTA revise its design plans for the South Acton Station in a way that promotes a safe and secure environment, ensures south-side access, improves access for all patrons of the MBTA, and respects the historic nature and integrity of South Acton, as illustrated in the South Acton Train Station Advisory Committee's design study."

MOTION CARRIES

ARTICLE 4 HOME RULE PETITION – LEASE OF TOWN FACILITIES FOR (Majority vote) RENEWABLE OR ALTERNATIVE ENERGY

To see if the Town will vote to petition the General Court for an Act authorizing the Board of Selectmen to lease, for a term of up to 25 years, municipal land, buildings and facilities for the purpose of installing renewable or alternative energy facilities to defray the cost of energy borne by taxation, in substantially the form set forth below, or take any other action relative thereto:

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

Section 1. Notwithstanding any general or special law, rule or regulation to the contrary, the Town of Acton is hereby authorized to lease Town-owned land, buildings or parts thereof, and facilities for a term of not more than 25 years, for the purpose of installing and operating solar, renewable or alternative energy facilities to defray the cost of energy borne by taxation, and to enter long-term power purchase agreements and utility easements in conjunction with and of even term with such leases, on such terms and conditions as the Board of Selectmen may determine.

Section 2. Notwithstanding any general or special law, rule or regulation to the contrary, the Board of Selectmen is authorized to issue a request for proposals for such purposes, to determine the terms and conditions of such request, to accept any proposal or negotiate changes in any proposal, or to reject all proposals, as it determines to be in the best interests of the Town, and to take all others actions as may be necessary or desirable to carry out such project or projects.

Section 3. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

MOTION: Ms. Knibbe moves that the Town take no action.

MOTION CARRIES UNANIMOUSLY

ARTICLE 5 USE OF TOWN FACILITIES FOR SOLAR, RENEWABLE OR ALTERNATIVE ENERGY PROJECTS (Two-thirds vote)

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into any leases, licenses, easements, and/or other agreements allowing the use, for a term

allowed by law, on such terms and conditions as the Board of Selectmen may determine, of any Town-owned lands, buildings, facilities, or portions thereof, for the purpose of installing and operating solar, renewable or alternative energy facilities to defray the cost of energy borne by taxation, and to enter long-term power purchase agreements, energy management services agreements, utility easements and similar instruments in conjunction therewith and in furtherance thereof, all on such terms and conditions as the Board of Selectmen may determine, or take any other action relative thereto.

MOTION: Ms. Knibbe moves that the Town authorize the Town Manager, subject to the approval of the Board of Selectmen with respect to municipal buildings, and subject to the approval of the School Committee with respect to school buildings, to enter into any leases, licenses, easements, and/or other agreements allowing the use for up to 25 years, on such terms and conditions as the Town Manager may determine, of any Town-owned lands, buildings, facilities, or portions thereof, for the purpose of installing and operating solar, renewable or alternative energy facilities to defray the cost of energy borne by taxation, and to enter long-term power purchase agreements, energy management services agreements, utility easements and similar instruments in conjunction therewith and in furtherance thereof.

Motion to amend: Ms Michelman moves to amend the motion by removing "renewable or alternative" from the motion.

Amendment to motion carries

**AMENDED MOTION CARRIES
DECLARED 2/3 BY MODERATOR***

*Town of Acton has excepted MGL CH 39 Sec 15 at its Annual Town Meeting April 2001,

Article 43 and the amended Bylaw 5A was approved by the Attorney General on Aug. 6, 2001.

(The Town Meeting Moderator is not required to count a 2/3 required vote.)

ARTICLE 6 * AMEND ZONING BYLAW – DEFINITION OF MANUFACTURING (Two-thirds vote)

To see if the Town will vote to amend the zoning bylaw, section 3.6.3 – Industrial Uses Definition for Manufacturing, by inserting after "... services related to the environment;" the following new phrase:

“development and manufacturing of renewable energy or alternative energy (RE/AE) equipment and systems;”

[Note: Section 3.6.3 currently reads as follows:

3.6.3 Manufacturing – A manufacturing facility, such as a printing or publishing plant; manufacturing of building systems and components; fabrication and assembly of electronic components, precision instruments, or other high technology products; manufacturing of metal products or office supplies; software or hardware development or manufacturing; research or testing of new and emerging technologies and technological devices; establishments engaged in services related to the environment; or similar USES and activities; including office, administrative, laboratory, and support facilities related to the foregoing; but excluding scientific USE as defined in Section 3.6.4. All operations shall confine disturbing smoke, fumes, dust, noise, and other emissions within the premises. No research or testing shall be conducted outside of a BUILDING. In the KC District, the maximum NET FLOOR AREA of an establishment that is classified as a Manufacturing USE shall not exceed 10,000 square feet.]

, or take any other action relative thereto.

MOTION: Mr. Niemyski moves that the Town adopt the zoning bylaw amendments as set forth in the Article.

CONSENT MOTION CARRIES UNANIMOUSLY

ARTICLE 7 * AMEND TOWN CHARTER – COMMISSION ON DISABILITIES
(Two-thirds vote)

To see if the Town, pursuant to Article 8-3(b) of the Acton Town Charter, will vote to amend section 4-2 of the Town Charter by reducing the number of members of the Commission on Disabilities from nine (9) to five (5) and by creating two (2) positions for associate members of the Commission on Disabilities each with a length of term of three (3) years, or take any other action relative thereto.

MOTION: Ms. Friedrichs moves that the Town adopt the Charter amendments as set forth in the Article.

CONSENT MOTION CARRIES UNANIMOUSLY

ARTICLE 8 * AMEND TOWN BYLAWS – CORRECTIONS AND
(Majority vote) **CLARIFICATIONS**

To see if the Town will vote to amend the General Bylaws of the Town as set forth below, or take any other action relative thereto:

1. In Chapter B, renumber the section titled “Commission on Disabilities” as B23.
2. In Chapter N, Section N3, delete Subsection 3.1 and replace it with a new Subsection 3.1 as follows:

3.1 Within seven (7) days of receipt of an application for a demolition permit for a significant building the Building Commissioner shall forward a copy thereof to the Commission. The Building Commissioner shall also notify the Commission (by email or similarly expedient means) when such a permit has been sent to the Commission for consideration. No demolition permit shall be issued at that time.

3. In Chapter N, Section N3, delete Subsection 3.2 and replace it with a new Subsection 3.2 as follows:

3.2 Within sixty-five (65) days of receipt of the application from the Building Commissioner the Commission shall conduct a public hearing and shall give public notice thereof by publishing notice of the time, place and purpose of the hearing in a local newspaper at least fourteen (14) days before said hearing and also, within fourteen (14) days of said hearing, mail a copy of said notice to the applicant.

MOTION: Mr. Gowing moves that the Town adopt the general bylaw amendments as set forth in the Article.

CONSENT MOTION CARRIES UNANIMOUSLY

ARTICLE 9* ACCEPT SIDEWALK EASEMENT
– 442 MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE
(Two-thirds vote)

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to acquire by purchase, gift, eminent domain or otherwise and to accept a deed of easement interest for a sidewalk along Massachusetts Avenue (Route 111) for all purposes for which streets, sidewalks and ways are now or hereafter used in the Town, on such terms and conditions as the Selectmen may determine and in a final location as the Selectmen may determine, on, across, over, and/or

under the land at 442 Massachusetts Avenue (Town Atlas Map F-2 Parcel 120), n/f of 442 Massachusetts Avenue, LLC of 69 Great Road, Acton, MA 01720; and further see if the Town will raise, appropriate, transfer from available funds or accept gifts for this purpose, or take any other action relative thereto

MOTION: Ms. Knibbe moves that the Town authorize the acquisition of the easement as set forth in the Article.

CONSENT MOTION CARRIES UNANIMOUSLY

ARTICLE 10 *ACCEPT LAND GIFT – CONANT STREET
(Two-thirds vote)

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to acquire on such terms and conditions as the Selectmen may determine, by purchase, gift, eminent domain or otherwise and to accept the deed of a fee simple interest in a certain parcel of land on Conant Street shown as Lot 4 containing 41,079 square feet, more or less, on a plan entitled "Plan of Land, Main Street & Conant Street, Acton, Massachusetts, Owned By: Colonial Path, LLC, P.O. Box 2170, Acton, Massachusetts 01720" dated: August 28, 2007, scale: 1"=40 prepared by Foresite Engineering, 16 Gleasondale Road, Suite 1-1, Stow, Massachusetts 01775, recorded at the South District Registry of Deeds as Plan 986 of 2007 and shown on Town Atlas Map I-2 as Parcel 17, for general municipal purposes, and further to see if the Town will raise, appropriate, transfer from available funds, or accept gifts for this purpose, or take any other action relative thereto.

MOTION: Mr. Gowing moves that the Town accept the gift of land as set forth in the Article.

Held from consent
MOTION CARRIES UNANIMOUSLY

ARTICLE 11 * TRANSFER OF FUNDS FOR OVER-LAY DEFICITS
(Majority vote)

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Overlay Surplus a sum of money to fund any overlay deficits in fiscal year 2009 as provided in Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 59, Section 25, or take any other action relative thereto.

MOTION: Ms. Knibbe moves that the Town transfer \$220,000 from Overlay Surplus for the purpose of funding overlay deficits.

Held from consent
MOTION CARRIES UNANIMOUSLY

TOWN ELECTIONS AND STATISTICS

TOWN OF ACTON ANNUAL TOWN ELECTION MARCH 31, 2009

VOTE COUNT	PCT 1	PCT 2	PCT 3	PCT4	PCT5	PCT6	TOTAL	%
MACHINE 9:00 AM	55	58	101	53	60	62	389	3%
12:00 PM	119	187	221	150	144	161	982	7%
3:00 PM	198	311	395	309	267	292	1772	13%
6:00 PM	280	446	564	414	353	414	2471	18%
MACHINE TOTAL - FINAL	362	568	739	580	474	512	3235	23%
HAND COUNT	0	2	0	0	0	0	2	
TOTAL VOTED	362	570	739	580	474	512	3237	23%

TOTAL # REGISTERED VOTERS--- 2496 2262 2468 2240 2237 2179 13882

MODERATOR

BLANKS	73	104	152	111	71	82	593	18%
DONALD MACKENZIE	284	455	559	462	397	424	2581	80%
SCATTERED	5	11	28	7	6	6	63	2%
TOTAL	362	570	739	580	474	512	3237	100%

SELECTMEN

BLANKS	1	5	3	3	3	3	18	1%
MICHAEL J. GOWING	219	314	461	367	263	294	1918	59%
DEWITT C. SEWARD, III	142	251	275	210	208	215	1301	40%
SCATTERED	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%
TOTAL	362	570	739	580	474	512	3237	100%

SCHOOL COMMITTEE 3 YRS

BLANKS	182	270	332	263	214	201	1462	23%
JONATHAN E. CHINITZ	221	348	454	336	237	296	1892	29%
BENJAMIN HURWITZ	121	171	225	191	173	199	1080	17%
TERENCE LINDGREN	198	347	462	370	322	324	2023	31%
SCATTERED	2	4	5	0	2	4	17	0%
TOTAL	724	1140	1478	1160	948	1024	6474	100%

TRUSTEE, MEMORIAL LIBRARY 3YRS

BLANKS	89	150	184	138	104	117	782	24%
DAVID T. BARRAT	270	412	485	409	340	391	2307	71%
SCATTERED	3	8	70	33	30	4	148	5%
TOTAL	362	570	739	580	474	512	3237	100%

WATER SUPPLY DISTRICT

MODERATOR

BLANKS	94	134	198	138	102	112	778	24%
RICHARD P. OBRIEN	267	432	534	441	369	396	2439	75%
SCATTERED	1	4	7	1	3	4	20	1%
TOTAL	362	570	739	580	474	512	3237	100%

VOTE COUNT	PCT 1	PCT 2	PCT 3	PCT4	PCT5	PCT6	TOTAL	%
COMMISSIONER								
BLANKS	98	152	210	150	98	126	834	26%
LEONARD A. PHILLIPS	264	416	523	428	372	385	2388	74%
SCATTERED	0	2	6	2	4	1	15	1%
TOTAL	362	570	739	580	474	512	3237	100%

SPECIAL TOWN ELECTION DECEMBER 8, 2009

VOTE COUNT	PCT 1	PCT 2	PCT 3	PCT4	PCT5	PCT6	TOTAL	%
MACHINE 9:00 AM	79	72	86	87	63	66	453	3%
12:00 PM	196	189	210	195	281	200	1271	9%
3:00 PM	345	315	436	299	345	330	2070	15%
6:00 PM	456	454	620	469	501	481	2981	22%
MACHINE TOTAL - FINAL	580	564	779	607	613	590	3733	27%
HAND COUNT	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	
TOTAL VOTED	580	565	779	607	613	590	3734	27%

TOTAL # REGISTERED VOTERS---	2448	2223	2453	2202	2216	2126	13668	
Registered Democrat	711	613	704	642	640	591	3901	
Registered Republican	320	296	237	234	239	286	1612	
Registered Unenrolled	1409	1308	1505	1316	1331	1246	8115	
Other	8	6	7	10	6	3	40	

DEMOCRAT

SENATOR IN CONGRESS

BLANKS	1	0	1	0	0	0	2	0%
MICHAEL E. CAPUANO	106	128	130	127	142	90	723	23%
MARTHA COAKLEY	232	218	336	251	252	257	1546	50%
ALAN A. KHAZEI	91	68	119	95	105	73	551	18%
STEPHEN G. PAGLIUCA	41	42	49	32	42	54	260	8%
SCATTERED	1	0	1	1	0	5	8	0%
TOTAL	472	456	636	506	541	479	3090	100%

REPUBLICAN

SENATOR IN CONGRESS

BLANKS	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0%
SCOTT P. BROWN	98	101	135	92	71	107	604	94%
JACK E. ROBINSON	8	7	7	7	1	4	34	5%
SCATTERED	2	0	1	1	0	0	4	1%
TOTAL	108	108	143	101	72	111	643	100%

LIBERTARIAN

SENATOR IN CONGRESS

BLANKS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
WRITE IN	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
WRITE IN	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
SCATTERED	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
TOTAL	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	

OTHER INFORMATION

REGISTERED VOTER STATISTICS

Democrats	3924
Republicans	1609
Unenrolled	8163
Others	40
Total Registered	13,736

Unregistered	8172
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POPULATION	21,908
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DOG STATISTICS

Dog Licenses	1843
Kennel Licenses	8

VITAL STATISTICS

BIRTHS RECORDED	160
DEATH RECORDED	101
MARRIAGES RECORDED	67

DEATH

NAME	DATE	AGE
MCGRAIL, JOHN P.	1/4/2009	78
DAIGLE, KEVIN J. SR.	1/4/2009	58
PILEEKI, SOPHI AKA SOFIE	1/20/2009	91
PATTISON, MARTHA K.	1/28/2009	66
DEE, PAUL V. SR.	2/4/2009	86
ALTON, FLORENCE	2/10/2009	90
LARAMEE, JOAN L.	2/23/2009	71
BARRESI, NICHOLAS J.	3/2/2009	88
O'NEIL, RUTH C.	3/1/2009	94
SCHWARTZMAN, ISAAC	03/04/09	94
BEAUDOIN, JULIA G.	2/20/2009	74
MCGARRY, JOHN J. SR.	3/22/2009	86
JAMES, BEATRICE J.	3/24/2009	95
YAUCKOES, ANN R.	3/27/2009	93
RICH, RUTH R.	3/26/2009	90
WICKELGREN, GLENN L.	3/30/2009	68
KOLB, MARY C.	4/2/2009	97
MASKOUSKY, MARJORIE E.	4/9/2009	63
CRAIG, C. ERNEST	1/28/2009	85
HERBERT, CURTIS O.	4/16/2009	68
DOUCETTE, EILEEN P.	3/23/2009	73
POMPILIO, MICHAEL A.	2/23/2009	81
GERHARDT, LESLIE H.	1/31/2009	81
CARBONE, HELEN J.	4/30/2009	83
DODGE, DOROTHY G.	5/4/2009	95
BROWN, SUSAN J.	5/4/2009	47
CLAPP, ALICE H.	5/4/2009	91
WAJSFELNER, IZAK	5/6/2009	90

NAME	DATE	AGE
ARLENE LOOMIS	5/9/2009	85
PERSSON-WISS, BIRGITTA H.	5/10/2009	57
GRAY, CECILLE R.	5/10/2009	91
BARRON, DONALD P.	5/10/2009	59
ERICSSON, MARIE P.	2/23/2009	79
WARREN, MARILYN R.	3/1/2009	82
BOONE, EMMA A.	3/7/2009	91
GASKILL, NAOMI T.	3/28/2009	94
CANTLIN, JOHN H.	4/20/2009	89
LEE, DAVID A.	4/1/2009	64
SHIEH, KATHRYN	4/13/2009	86
DOLAN, RITA L.	5/31/2009	81
WHITE, RUSSELL J.	6/1/2009	86
HOW, WILLIAM B.	6/9/2009	59
MARTEL, CATHERINE B.	5/28/2009	91
CROOK, GEORGE H. III	6/14/2009	89
GUYETT, CLAYTON L.	6/21/2009	85
HAGGERY, JOHN S.	6/25/2009	70
PELTON, MILDRED E.	5/2/2009	74
WATKINS, FLORENCE E.	7/8/2009	83
CAPLAND, ELAINE J.	7/12/2009	85
BEARCE, RICHARD J.	7/20/2009	65
CRAWLEY, KRISTYNE L.	6/21/2009	40
CAVALIERE, MARIA T.	6/13/2009	83
YETMAN, WILLIAM E.	6/24/2009	58
GOULD, ROSE E.	7/31/2009	87
GREEN, ELLEN M.	8/4/2009	77
MASKALENKO, EDWARD J.	08/05/09	84
TANG, NINA S.	8/6/2009	78
MICKUNAS, JUOZAS, JR.	8/9/2009	77
LEONARD, JOHN J.	7/19/2009	57
CROCKER, FRANCES E.	7/16/2009	87
BEEBE, VIRGINIA	8/19/2009	84
KANTOWSKI, MARY J.	8/28/2009	52
MUNSON, MARGARET T.	8/25/2009	85
MILLER, CHARLES E., JR.	9/10/2009	81
TETREAULT, BERNARD F.	9/11/2009	84
LINNARD, GLADYS C.	9/1/2009	101
HILTON, MARY	9/24/2009	57
TOPOR, MARY T.	9/30/2009	94
COTONE, PASQUALE J.	10/8/2009	81
BENDER, EUGENIE L.	10/9/2009	76
NETHERCUT, RICHARD D.	10/6/2009	83
TOWLE, SHIRLEY U.	9/17/2009	83
DUGGAN, EDWARD M.	9/3/2009	68
NALLY, JAMES B.	11/3/2009	80
JONES, FREDERICK S., II	11/7/2009	79
NEALEY, RONALD C.	11/12/2009	78
JASSAL, KASHMIRA S.	10/14/2009	89
HUNT, HELEN JOSEPHINE	9/18/2009	82
BRUSCHI, GIORGIO	11/19/09	75
CURRAN, THOMAS J.	11/7/2009	79
LEPROUX, MADELEINE	11/16/2009	89
MUSTOE, HELENE A.	12/3/2009	75
MORELAND, KENNETH A.	12/9/2009	78

NAME	DATE	AGE
GRAY, HERBERT R.	12/13/2009	88
KALLIO, OIVA T.	12/11/2009	74
CROWDIS, PATRICIA W.	12/16/2009	72
REIS, JOAN P.A. CHARRON	12/15/2009	50
FLANAGAN, KATHERINE T.	12/3/2009	77
GUPTA, JITENDRA N.	12/11/2009	84
SHAMEL, DOROTHY I.	12/18/2009	97
DEGRAPPO, NICHOLAS	12/19/2009	101
FIGORE, PETER L.	12/19/2009	52
EDGAR, BARBARA A.	12/24/2009	73
BENZ, VERNA C.	12/25/2009	89
LAROCHE, STEPHEN P.	12/24/2009	49
ARLING, VERA A.	12/24/2009	84
ELLA VELENO	12/30/2009	92
HELENE A. MUSTOE	12/3/2009	75



Summer Play at NARA

ACTON INFORMATION

NATIONAL, STATE, AND COUNTY OFFICIALS

NATIONAL

President	Barack H. Obama
Vice-President	Joseph R. Biden, Jr.
Senators in Congress	Edward M. Kennedy John F. Kerry
Representative in Congress 5th Congressional District	Niki Tsongas

STATE

Governor	Deval Patrick
Lieutenant Governor	Timothy Murray
Secretary of the Commonwealth	William F. Galvin
Attorney General	Martha Coakley
Treasurer and Receiver General	Timothy P. Cahill
Auditor of the Commonwealth	A. Joseph DeNucci
Senator Middlesex / Worcester District	James B. Eldridge
Representative in General Court 14th Middlesex Representative District	Cory Atkins
Representative in General Court 37 th Middlesex Representative District	Jennifer E. Benson

MIDDLESEX COUNTY

Clerk of Superior Court	Michael A. Sullivan
Register of Deeds Middlesex South	Eugene C. Brune
Register of Probate	Marie Gardin (Acting)
District Attorney	Gerald Leone
County Sheriff	James V. DiPaola

ELECTED TOWN OFFICIALS

POSITION NAME

TERM EXPIRES

Moderator

Donald MacKenzie	2009
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Acton Board of Selectmen

Paulina Knibbe - Chair	2010
Peter Berry - Vice Chair	2010
Lauren S. Rosenzweig - Clerk	2011
Terra Friedrichs	2011
Michael Gowing	2012

Acton-Boxborough Regional School Committee

Selectmen Liaison: L. Rosenzweig	
Sharon A. Smith-McManus - Chair	2011
Michael J. Coppolino	2010
John S. Petersen	2011
Terry Lindgren	2012
Jonathan Chinitz	2012
Xuan Kong	2010

Acton Public Schools Committee

Xuan Kong - Chair	2010
Michael J. Coppolino	2010
Sharon A. Smith-McManus	2011
John S. Petersen	2011
Terry Lindgren	2012
Jonathan Chinitz	2012

Trustees Acton Memorial Library

Selectman Liaison: Paulina Knibbe	
Robert J Surdel - President	2011
Frank Joyner - Vice President	Corporate
Joseph W. Glannon	2010
David T. Barrat	2012
Robert Ferrara	Corporate
Brewster Conant	Corporate
Ann Chang	Corporate
Dennis Ahern	Corporate
Thomas Dunn	Corporate

Housing Authority

Kenneth Sghia-Hughes	2011
Robert B. Whittlesey - State Appointed	2013
Dennis Sullivan	2010
Bernice Baran	2011
Nancy Kolbe	2012

**POSITION
NAME****TERM
EXPIRES****Trustees, Citizen's West Acton Library**

Selectmen Liaison: L. Rosenzweig	
Nancy Lenicheck - Chair	2010
Gerald Browne	2011
Ellen Spero	2012

Trustees, Charlotte Goodnow Fund

Cynthia Schimpf	2012
Becky Rockwell-Bent	2011
Alice Miller	2011

Trustees, Elizabeth White Fund

Cornelia O. Huber	2010
Frank Joyner	2012
Andrea S. Miller	2011

Trustees, New Fireman's Relief Fund- (ATM 07)

William Klauer	2012
Robert Vanderhoof	2010
Bruce Stone	2011

**OFFICIALS APPOINTED BY
MODERATOR****Finance Committee**

Selectman Liaison: P. Knibbe	
Herman Kabakoff - Chair	2010
Maryanne Ashton - V. Chair	2012
Bill Mullin - Clerk	2012
Patricia Clifford	2010
Kent Sharp	2011
Stephen R. Noone	2010
Doug Tindal	2011
Bob Evans	2012
Patricia Easterly	2011
Maynard G. Brandon - Associate	2009

Minuteman Regional Technical HS

F. Dore' Hunter	2012
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**APPOINTED MADE BY THE
SELECTMEN****POSITION
NAME****TERM
EXPIRES****Acton Boxborough Cultural Council**

Selectman Liaison: T. Friedrichs	
Gregory Hutchins	06/30/12
Padamaja Kuchimanchi	06/30/12
Suman Adishesu	06/30/12
Anne Krinsky	06/30/12
Barbara Estabrook	06/30/11
Yanni Gou	06/30/11

Acton Community Housing Corporation

Selectman Liaison: P. Berry	
Nancy Tavenier	06/30/11
Robert Van Meter	06/30/10
Corrina Roman-Kreuz	06/30/11
Bernice Baran	06/30/11
Brent Reagor	06/30/12
Jennifer Patenaude - (Associate)	06/30/10
Kevin McManus - (Associate)	06/30/10
Naomi McManus - (Associate)	06/30/10
Pam Shuttle - (Associate)	06/30/10

ARC of Innovation

L. Rosenzweig

Board of Appeals

Selectman Liaison: P. Berry	
Kenneth Kozik	06/30/11
Marilyn Peterson	06/30/10
Jon Wagner	06/30/12
Adam Hoffman- Alternate	06/30/12
Francis Mastroianni-Alternate	06/30/12
Richard Fallon - Alternate	06/30/12

Board of Assessors

Selectman Liaison: P. Berry	
David E. Brown	06/30/11
Susan C. Miller	06/30/12
Carol Leipner Srebnick	06/30/11
James Kotanchik - Alternate	06/30/11

Board of Health

Selectman Liaison: M. Gowing	
William McInnis	06/30/10
Joanne Bissetta	06/30/10
Pamela Harting-Barrat	06/30/12
William R. Taylor	06/30/12
Mark Conoby	06/30/10
Michael Kreuze - voting Associate	6/30/2012

POSITION NAME	TERM EXPIRES	POSITION NAME	TERM EXPIRES
Board of Registrar of Voters		Council on Aging	
Dewitt C. Seward, III - Republican	02/30/12	Selectman Liaison: M. Gowing	
Katherine F. Arnold - Republican	02/30/11	Stephan Baran	06/30/10
Deena Ferrara - Democratic	02/30/10	Gena Manalan	06/30/10
		Barbara Tallone	06/30/10
		Barbara K. Willson	06/30/10
		Pat Ellis	06/30/10
		Charles D. Arronson	06/30/10
		Paul Turner	06/30/10
		Sally Thompson	06/30/10
		Jim Papachristos	06/30/10
Cable Advisory Committee		Design Review Board	
Selectman Liaison: M. Gowing		Selectman Liaison: L. Rosenzweig	
John Covert	06/30/11	Ann Sussman	06/30/12
Frits W. Riep	06/30/12	Conor Nagle	06/30/11
Michael W. Geis	06/30/10	Lynne Alpert	06/30/12
Brian F. Costello	06/30/10	Holly Ben-Joseph	06/30/10
Brandy Brandon	06/30/10	David Honn	06/30/11
Oleg M. Volinsky	06/30/10	Christopher Dallmus - Associate	06/30/10
Associate - open		Ruth Martin - Alt. Planning Rep	06/30/10
Associate - open		Ryan Bettez- 2nd Alt. Planning Rep	06/30/10
Cemetery Commission		Disabilities, Commission on	
Selectman Liaison: T. Friedrichs		Selectmen Liaison: T. Friedrichs	
Brewster Conant	06/30/11	Elizabeth Franklin	2012
Bill Klauer	06/30/11	John A. Brako	2012
Barbara A. Walsh	06/30/11	Brenda Viola	2012
		Janet Feasel	2012
		Joy B. Kohout	2011
Community Preservation Committee		Economic Development Committee	
Selectman Liaison: M. Gowing		Selectman Liaison: T. Friedrichs	
Jon Benson - At large	06/30/10	Doug Tindal, Fin Com Rep.	06/30/11
Walter Foster At large - V Chair	06/30/12	Nicholas Francis - at large	06/30/10
Janet Adachi (ConsCom) - Clerk	06/30/11	Chris Papathanasiou, Chamber-Boxborough	06/30/10
Michael Gowing - (BOS)	06/30/12	Nancy B. Dinkel	06/30/12
Kenneth Sghia Hughes - (AHA)	06/30/11	Ann Chang - at large	06/30/11
Susan Mitchell-Hardt - At Large	06/30/12	Leigh Davis-Honn - Planning Rep	06/30/10
Roland Bourdon - (Planning Bd.)	06/30/10	Richard Callendrella - Associate	06/30/10
Victoria Beyer-(Historical)	06/30/11	Associate - Open	
Ron Schelgel - Recreation	06/30/12	Associate - Open	
F. Dore' Hunter - Associate	06/30/12		
Corrina Roman-Kreuze - Associate	06/30/10		
Conservation Commission		Economic Development Industrial Commission	
Selectman Liaison: P. Berry		Jonathan Avery	06/30/10
Terry Maitland	06/30/12	Harry Hedison	06/30/09
Tom Arnold	06/30/12	Bonnie Wilson	06/30/09
William Froberg	06/30/12	John G. Ravis	06/30/10
Janet Adachi	06/30/11		
Frances P. Portante	06/30/10		
Patty Lee	06/30/10		
Toros L. Maksoudian	06/30/11		
James Snyder-Grant - Associate (L S Rep)	06/30/10		
Antoinette Hershey - Associate	06/30/10		

POSITION NAME	TERM EXPIRES	POSITION NAME	TERM EXPIRES
Green Advisory Board		Land Stewardship Committee	
Selectman Liaison: P. Knibbe		Selectman Liaison: P. Berry	
Catherine Crosby	06/30/12	Joan Cirillo	06/30/10
Christopher Schaffner	06/30/12	Robert Guba	06/30/10
Eric Hudson	06/30/10	Philip Keyes	06/30/11
Thomas Michelmen	06/30/11	Peggy Liversidge	06/30/11
John Ravis	06/30/10	Bettina Abe	06/30/10
Mary Smith	06/30/11	Nan Millett	06/30/11
Dennis Loria	06/30/10	Richard Rhode	06/30/12
Terry Lindgren - Associate	06/30/10	Ann Shubert	06/30/12
		James Snyder-Grant	06/30/12
Health Insurance Trustees		Maura Herlihy - Assoc	06/30/10
Selectman Liaison: P. Berry		David Cochrane - Assoc	06/30/10
Peter Berry - BOS	06/30/10	Andy Gatesman - Assoc	06/30/10
School Committee (John Peterson)	06/30/10	Charles Carlson - Assoc	06/30/10
Finance committee (Robert Evans)	06/30/10	Laurence Ullmann - Assoc	06/30/10
Town Treasurer - (John Murray)		Paul Wasserboehrl - Assoc	06/30/10
Director of Finance-Schools - (Tess Summers)		Member - Open - Assoc	06/30/10
Historical Commission		Lowell Regional Transit	
Selectman Liaison: T. Friedrichs		David Sharfarz	06/30/10
Anita Dodson	06/30/11		
William Klauer	06/30/11	MAGIC/MAPC	
Victoria Beyer	06/30/12	L. Rosenzweig	
Kimberly Connors Hughes	06/30/11	Greg Niemyski (2nd Alternate)	
William Dickinson	06/30/10	Ray S. Yacouby (1st Alternate)	
Bradford Maxwelll - Associate	06/30/10	Bruce Reichlen (MAPC Alternate Rep)	
Historic District Commission		MBTA Advisory Board	
Selectman Liaison: P. Berry		D. Hunter	
Michaela Moran	06/30/10		
Ellie Halsey	06/30/10	Metropolitan Area Planning	
Scott Kutil	06/30/10	Lauren Rosenzweig	
Kathryn A. Acerbo-Bachmann	06/30/10		
David Honn	06/30/11	Open Space and Recreation Advisory Committee	
Maya Minkin	06/30/12	Michael Gowing - BOS Rep	
David T. Barrat - Alternate	06/30/12	Peter Ashton	06/30/11
Terra Friedrichs - Alternate	06/30/11	Andrew Magee	06/30/11
		Jeff Clymer (Planning)	06/30/14
		Karen O'Neil	06/30/11
		Charles Carlson (Conservation)	06/30/11
		Dick Hatfield	06/30/11
		Jane Ceraso	06/30/12
		Outdoor Lighting Education Committee	
		Selectman Liaison: T. Friedrichs	
		Bernard Kosicki	06/30/10
		Martin Graetz	06/30/10
		Gary Green	06/30/10
		Hartley Millett	06/30/10
		Tom McDonagh	06/30/10
		Steven Feinstein - Associate	06/30/10
		Steven Pratt - Associate	06/30/10
		Associate - open	

POSITION NAME	TERM EXPIRES	POSITION NAME	TERM EXPIRES
Planning Board		Sidewalk Committee	
Selectman Liaison: L. Rosenzweig		Selectman Liaison: P Knibbe	
Ryan Bettez	06/30/13	Kate Chung	06/30/10
Jeff Clymer	06/30/14	Leslie Hogan	06/30/12
Ray Yacouby	06/30/14	Pamela Cochrane	06/30/12
Gregory Niemyski	06/30/10	Sytske Cambell	06/30/10
Roland A. Bourdon III	06/30/12	Celia Kent	06/30/11
Margaret Woolley Bussse	06/30/14	Dick Calendrella	06/30/10
Leigh Davis-Honn	06/30/14	Bettina Abe	06/30/11
Kimberly Montella - Associate	06/30/10	Dana Snyder-Grant - Associate	06/30/10
Derrick J Chin - Associate	06/30/10	Steve Evans - Associate	06/30/10
Public Ceremonies Committee		South Acton Train Station Advisory Committee	
Gail Sawyer		Selectman Liaison: P Berry	
2-10. Open		Mary (Michaela) Moran	Standing
Recreation Commission		Thomas D. Campbell	Standing
Selectman Liaison: M. Gowing		Nicholas Zavolas	Standing
Elizabeth J. Payne	06/30/12	James E. Yarin	06/30/12
Karen Jarsky	06/30/10	David D. Martin	Standing
Frank Calore	06/30/10	Margaretha (Greta) Eckhardt	Standing
Brendan Cotter	06/30/11	F. Dore' Hunter	Standing
Kimberly Bodnar	06/30/12	Sean Hanley	Standing
Route 2 Corridor Advisory Committe		Patricia Clifford - FIN COM REP	Standing
Selectman Liaison: D. Hunter		Transportation Advisory Committee	
Senior / Disabled Taxation Aid Committee - (STAC)		Selectman Liaison: L. Rosenzweig	
Selectman Liaison: M. Gowing		James E. Yarin	06/30/12
Susan Miller - Assessors	06/30/10	James Citro	06/30/12
John Murray - Town Treasurer	06/30/10	Bengt Muten	06/30/12
Peter Ashton	06/30/10	Frances Osman	06/30/10
Nancy Gerhardt	06/30/10	Michael Fisher - (Associate)	06/30/10
Carol Mahoney	06/30/10	Associate - open	
Sewer Action Committee		Volunteer Coordinating Committee	
Selectman Liaison: L. Rosenzweig		Selectman Liaison: P. Knibbe	
Andy Munro	Standing	Bonnie Geithner	06/30/11
Richard L. Brewer	Standing	Jean B. Schoch	06/30/10
Kanayo Lala	Standing	Jean Lane	06/30/11
Kent Sharp (Fin Com Rep)	Standing	Nancy Gerhardt	06/30/11
Ann Chang (EDC Rep)	Standing	Charles D. Arronson	06/30/12
Nancy Tavernier	Standing	Efi Papadopoulos - Associate	06/30/10
Doug Halley (BOH Rep)	Standing	Giorgio Bruschi - Associate	06/30/10
Ron Beck	Standing		
Helen Probst	Standing		
Rick Gordon	Standing		
Robert Johnson	Standing		

**POSITION
NAME****TERM
EXPIRES****Wastewater Advisory Neighborhood Taskforce
(WANT)**

Selectman Liaison: L. Rosenzweig	
Doug Halley - Health Dir	Standing
Kerry Byrne	Standing
Peter Mosbach	Standing
Brett Murphy	Standing
Michael Geis	Standing
Kent Sharp - Fin Com	Standing
William McInnis - Board of Health	Standing

Water District-Land Management Advisory Committee

Selectman Liaison: T. Friedrichs	
Paul Malchodi - BOS Appointed	06/30/10
Greta Eckhardt - Water Dist Appointed	
Barry Rosen- Water Dist Appointed	
Charles Olmstead - Water Dist Appointed	
John Cipar- Water Dist Appointed	

Water Resources Advisory Committee

Selectman Liaison: L. Rosenzweig	
Joanne Bissetta - Board of Health	06/30/12
Chris Schaffner - Member at large	06/30/12
Helen Probst	06/30/11
Carol Holley	06/30/12
Ron Beck	06/30/12
Jeff Clymer	06/30/10
Michael Kreuze - voting Associate Health	06/30/11
Barry Rosen - Water District	06/30/10
Jane Ceraso - Alternate	07/30/10

**APPOINTMENTS MADE BY THE
TOWN MANAGER****Assistant Town Manager**

John Murray III

Assistant Assessor

Brian McMullen

Constable

Robert Connell
David Muscovitz
Christine Joyce
Christopher Prehl
Frederick Hryniewich
David Allen

Deputy Building Inspector

John Metivier

Deputy Forest Warden

Kevin Lyons

Deputy Inspector of Gas Piping and Gas Appliances

Todd Bosselmann

Deputy Inspector of Wires

Charles Weeks

Emergency Management

Director John Murray
Deputy Director, Gail Sawyer

Director of Municipal Properties

Dean Charter

Director of Public Health

Douglas Halley

Dog Officer

Patrick (TAC) Palmer

Fence Viewer

Bruce Stamski

Field Driver

Vacant

Fire Chief

Robert Craig

Deputy Fire Chief

Kevin Lyons

Captains

Carl Robinson
Robert Hart

Robert Vanderhoof
Michael Lyons

Lieutenants

Brian Richter
Scott Morse

John White
Robert Smith

Firefighters

Forrest E. Bean, III *
James Young
Bruce Stone
Richard O'Leary

Firefighter/EMT's:

Anita Arnum
Kenneth Carroll
Brent Carter
Jared Crowley
Edmond Daigneault
Joshua DeFelice
Steven DiMeco

Eric Mathieu
Thomas Matthews
Nicholas Pentedemos
James Rautenberg **
James Ray
Ricky Robinson
James Ruggiero

Michael Doherty
Charles Dunnigan
Kris Ellicks
Shawn Ferrari
Leo Hayes#
Kenneth Ineson
Patrick Judge

Call Firefighter:
Robert Puffer

Forest Warden:
Robert C. Craig, Fire Chief

Inspector of Animals
Patrick Palmer

Inspector of Gas Piping and Appliances
James G. Corey

Inspector of Wires
William Morehouse

Local Building Commissioner
Francis Ramsbottom

Natural Resources/Cemetery Director
Thomas Tidman

Keeper of the Lockup
Frank J. Widmayer III

Chief of Police
Frank J. Widmayer III

Lieutenants
Thomas J. Rogers
Robert L. Parisi

Sergeants
John Cooney
James A. Cogan
Raymond P. Grey
Edward Lawton
Scott Howe

Police Officers
Paul Cogan
James Goodemote
Christopher Prehl
David Joachim
Michael Cogan
Luke Penney
Dean Keeler
Keith Campbell

Robert Sabourin
Christopher Sammet
Sean Sheridan
Dennis Smith
Richard Sullivan
Clem Tyler
Brian Whalen

Robert Cowan
Christopher Browne
Frederick Rentschler
Jesse Osterhoudt
Kevin Heffernan
Leo Gower
Gardena Abramowitz
Daniel Silva

Douglas Sturniolo
Daniel Holway
Stephen McCarthy
John Collins
John Stackhouse

Police Matrons
Faith Williams
Debra Richardson
Christine Joyce

Dispatchers
Kevin Antonelli Daniel Deane
Alicia Mele Matthew Hammer
Robert Boyd
Anne Milligan Roger Wallace
Adam Bean Patrick Hawthorne
Allison Bailey Kristine June

Public Ceremonies and Celebrations
Gail Sawyer 2010

Public Weighers
Christopher N. Prehl
Paul Cogan
James A. Barbato
Robert Greenough

Recreation Director
Catherine Fochtman

Sealer of Weights and Measures
Mark Fitzpatrick

Supt. of Streets
Russell Robinson

Town Finance Director
Steven Barrett

Town Engineer
Bruce Stamski

Town Report Committee
Ann Chang Marilyn Peterson

Veteran's Agent
F. Dore' Hunter

** Resigned
*Retired
#deceased

Scott Krug
Todd McKelvie
Tricia Sullivan
Michael Eracleo
James Hodgerney

STREET LIST
OF THE TOWN OF
ACTON, MASSACHUSETTS
TOWN OF ACTON
ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT
JANUARY 1, 2009

STREET MAP

<u>STREET NAME</u>	<u>PRECINCT</u>	<u>INDEX</u>
ABEL JONES PLACE	4	M-10
ACORN PARK DRIVE	2	R-10
ADAMS STREET	5	K-12
AGAWAM ROAD	3	N-8
ALBERTINE DRIVE	4	L-10
ALCOTT STREET	6	O-12
ALEXANDRA WAY	1	S-10
ALGONQUIN ROAD	3	O-8
ANDERS WAY	4	N-10
ANDREW DRIVE	4	N-8
APPLE VALLEY DRIVE	4	K-10
ARBORWOOD ROAD	5	N-11
3 - 21 ODD		
18 - 20 EVEN		
ARBORWOOD ROAD	6	N-11
2 - 12 EVEN		
ARLINGTON STREET	2	P-8
1 - 73 ODD		
14 - 134 EVEN		
ARLINGTON STREET	3	N-8
89 - 423 ODD		
272 - END EVEN		
ARLINGTON STREET	4	N-8
158 - 262 EVEN		
ASHLEY CIRCLE	1	S-11
ASHWOOD ROAD	6	N-11
ASSABET CROSSING	5	L-12
AUDUBON DRIVE	5	L-11
AUTUMN LANE	3	M-8
AVALON DRIVE	1	S-9
AYER ROAD	5	N-12
AZALEA COURT	6	P-13
BADGER CIRCLE	1	S-11
BALSAM DRIVE	2	P-9
BANKSIDE HOLLOW	1	S-9
BARKER ROAD	6	N-10
BAXTER ROAD	4	M-9
BAYBERRY ROAD	6	P-12
BEECHNUT STREET	2	R-9
BELLANTONI DRIVE	5	N-13
BELLOWS FARM ROAD	1	R-12
BERRY LANE	6	O-12
BETH CIRCLE	1	S-9
BETSY ROSS CIRCLE	3	L-7
BEVERLY ROAD	4	N-10
BILLINGS STREET	4	L-9
BIRCH RIDGE ROAD	3	M-7
BITTERSWEET LANE	1	R-11
BLACK HORSE DRIVE	3	L-7
BLUE HERON WAY	1	R-11
BLUEBERRY PATH	1	T-11
BRABROOK ROAD	6	P-12
BRAMBLE WAY	1	R-12
BREEZY POINT ROAD	2	R-9

STREET MAP

<u>STREET NAME</u>	<u>PRECINCT</u>	<u>INDEX</u>
BREWSTER LANE	5	L-11
BRIAR HILL ROAD	1	R-11
BRIDGES DRIVE	2	O-10
BRIDLE PATH WAY	1	Q-13
BRIMSTONE LANE	1	R-11
BROADVIEW ROAD	5	L-11
BROMFIELD ROAD	6	O-11
BROOK STREET	6	Q-11
BROOKSIDE CIRCLE	5	M-12
BROWN BEAR CROSSING	1	S-9
BRUCEWOOD ROAD	6	N-11
BRUCEWOOD ROAD EAST	6	N-11
BULETTE ROAD	2	P-7
BUTTERNUT HOLLOW	1	S-9
CAITLIN DRIVE	4	M-8
CANDIDA LANE	5	N-11
CANTERBURY HILL ROAD	1	S-11
CAPTAIN BROWN'S LANE	4	N-9
CAPTAIN FORBUSH LANE	4	N-9
CAPTAIN HANDLEY ROAD	1	R-10
CARLISLE ROAD	1	T-11
CARLTON DRIVE	5	K-11
CARRIAGE DRIVE	5	M-11
CASTLE DRIVE	3	L-8
CEDAR TERRACE	4	N-9
CENTRAL STREET	3	N-7
236 - 456 EVEN		
283 - 459 ODD		
CENTRAL STREET	4	M-8
1 - 267 ODD		
2 - 224 EVEN		
CHADWICK STREET	5	M-11
CHAFFIN WAY	2	P-8
CHARTER ROAD	2	N-9
63 - 103 ODD		
54 - 106 EVEN		
CHARTER ROAD	4	N-9
16 - 50		
CHEROKEE ROAD	3	O-8
CHERRY RIDGE ROAD	3	M-8
CHESTNUT STREET	2	R-9
CHURCH STREET	3	M-8
CINDY LANE	5	L-12
CLOVER HILL ROAD	5	M-12
COBURN DRIVE	5	M-11
COLONIAL PATH	4	L-10
CONANT STREET	5	L-11
CONCETTA CIRCLE	5	L-12
CONCORD PLACE	6	O-11
CONCORD ROAD	6	O-11
CONQUEST WAY	4	M-9
COOLIDGE DRIVE	2	O-9
COUGHLIN STREET	6	O-10
COUNTRY CLUB ROAD	5	L-11

STREET MAP			STREET MAP		
STREET NAME	PRECINCT	INDEX	STREET NAME	PRECINCT	INDEX
COUNTRYSIDE ROAD	2	P-7	FREEDOM FARME ROAD	2	O-8
COWDREY LANE	2	O-10		1 - 5 ODD	
CRAIG ROAD	6	N-12		2 - 4 EVEN	
CRESTWOOD LANE	4	M-9	FREEDOM FARME ROAD	3	O-8
CRICKET WAY	6	P-11		7 - 21 ODD	
CROSS STREET	1	T-11	8 - 22 EVEN FROST DRIVE	2	O-11
			FROST DRIVE	6	O-11
DAVIS ROAD	1	R-11			
DEACON HUNT ROAD	4	N-9	GERALD CIRCLE	5	L-12
DEERGRASS LANE	1	R-11	GIONCONDA AVENUE	5	M-11
DEVON DRIVE	1	T-11	GRANITE ROAD	1	S-10
DISCOVERY WAY	5	N-11	GRACE PATH	1	Q-12
DORIS ROAD	4	N-10	GRASSHOPPER LANE	6	P-11
DOWNEY ROAD	4	L-9	GREAT ELM WAY	1	S-9
DRIFTWOOD ROAD	6	N-11	GREAT ROAD	6	Q-13
DRUMMER ROAD	5	M-12		1 - 217 ODD	
DUGGAN ROAD	3	L-8		2 - 336 EVEN	
DUNHAM LANE	5	L-12	GREAT ROAD	2	Q-11
DURKEE ROAD	4	M-9		340 - END EVEN	
DUSTON LANE	1	R-12	GREEN NEEDLE WAY	1	R-12
			GREENWOOD LANE	2	P-10
EASTERN ROAD	1	S-11	GREGORY LANE	3	M-8
ELIOT CIRCLE	2	O-10	GREYBIRCH LANE	1	Q-12, R-12
ELLSWORTH VILLAGE ROAD	6	P-12	GRIST MILL ROAD	3	L-8
ELM COURT	3	N-8	GUSWOOD ROAD	5	N-12
ELM STREET	3	N-8			
EMERSON DRIVE	6	O-12	HALEY LANE	5	M-11
ESKER WAY	6	O-11	HALF MOON HILL	3	N-8
ESTERBROOK ROAD	6	P-12	HAMMOND STREET	2	P-9
ETHAN ALLEN DRIVE	3	L-7	HARRIS STREET	1	R-10
EVERGREEN ROAD	2	P-9	HARTLAND WAY	1	T-11
EVERGREEN WAY	2	P-9	HARVARD COURT	6	Q-11
			HATCH ROAD	5	L-11
FAIRWAY ROAD	5	L-11	HAWTHORNE STREET	6	O-12
FARLEY LANE	5	L-10	HAYNES COURT	3	M-8
FARMERS ROW	1	Q-11	HAYWARD ROAD	2	N-9
FARMSTEAD WAY	4	N-10		1 - 61 ODD	
FAULKNER HILL ROAD	5	L-10	HAYWARD ROAD	4	N-9
FERNWOOD ROAD	5	N-11		66 - END EVEN	
	3 - 11 ODD		HAYWARD ROAD	6	N-9
FERNWOOD ROAD	6	N-11		4 - 54 EVEN	
	4 - 10 EVEN		HAZELNUT STREET	2	R-10
FIFE & DRUM ROAD	2	O-10	HEALD ROAD	2	O-10
FISCHER PATH	1	R-11	HEATHER HILL ROAD	4	L-8
FLAGG ROAD	6	P-12	HEMLOCK LANE	2	P-10
FLETCHER COURT	4	L-10	HENLEY ROAD	1	S-9
FLINT ROAD	4	M-9	HENNESSEY DRIVE	4	M-9
FLINTLOCK DRIVE	3	L-7	HERITAGE ROAD	5	N-12
FOREST ROAD	6	O-11	HERON VIEW ROAD	4	L-9
FORT POND ROAD	2	P-8	HICKORY HILL TRAIL	2	P-10
FOSTER STREET	6	N-12	HIGH STREET	5	L-11
FOX HILL ROAD	5	M-11	HIGHLAND ROAD	3	K-7
FRANCINE ROAD	4	N-10	HIGHRIDGE WAY	1	S-9
FRANKLIN PLACE	2	P-10	HILLCREST DRIVE	5	M-11
FRASER DRIVE	4	M-9			

<u>STREET MAP</u>		
<u>STREET NAME</u>	<u>PRECINCT</u>	<u>INDEX</u>
HILLSIDE TERRACE	3	M-8
HOMESTEAD STREET	3	M-8
HORSESHOE DRIVE	6	O-12
HOSMER STREET	5	N-12
	103 - 119 ODD	
HOSMER STREET	6	O-11
	3 - 91 ODD	
	2 - 106 EVEN	
HOUGHTON LANE	3	N-8
HUCKLEBERRY LANE	6	O-10
HURON ROAD	3	O-8
INDEPENDENCE ROAD	5	L-12
IRIS COURT	6	P-12
ISABELLA WAY	2	P-8
ISSAC DAVIS WAY	6	O-10
JACKSON DRIVE	2	O-9
JAY LANE	1	Q-12
JEFFERSON DRIVE	2	O-9
JENNIFER PATH	1	R-10
JESSE DRIVE	3	N-8
JOHN FRANCIS LANE	1	T-11
JOHN SWIFT ROAD	2	O-10
JOSEPH REED LANE	4	N-9
JUNIPER RIDGE ROAD	3	M-8
KATE DRIVE	1	R-11
KEEFE ROAD	6	O-13
KELLEY ROAD	4	N-10
KENNEDY LANE	2	N-8
KINGMAN ROAD	3	L-8
KINSLEY LANE	4	M-8
KINSLEY ROAD	4	M-8
KNOWLTON DRIVE	4	N-9
KNOX TRAIL	5	L-13
LADYSLIPPER LANE	1	Q-12
LARCH ROAD	2	P-10
LAUREL COURT	5	M-11
LAWS BROOK ROAD	5	N-12
	1 - 63 ODD	
LAWS BROOK ROAD	6	N-12
	2 - 66 EVEN	
LEDGE ROCK WAY	1	S-11
LEXINGTON DRIVE	5	N-12
LIBERTY STREET	4	L-10
LILAC COURT	5	M-11
LILLIAN ROAD	2	P-7
LINCOLN DRIVE	2	P-9
LISA LANE	5	N-12
LITTLEFIELD ROAD	3	O-7
LONG RIDGE ROAD	2	P-9

<u>STREET MAP</u>		
<u>STREET NAME</u>	<u>PRECINCT</u>	<u>INDEX</u>
LONGFELLOW PARK	6	O-11
LONGMEADOW WAY	1	Q-11
LOOSESTICK WAY	1	R-11
LOTHROP ROAD	4	M-9
MacGREGOR WAY	5	M-11
MacLEOD LANE	3	L-8
McKINLEY DRIVE	2	P-9
MADDY LANE	5	N-11
MADISON LANE	2	O-9
MAGNOLIA DRIVE	6	P-13
MAILLET DRIVE	5	L-12
MAIN STREET	5	O-10
	3 - 113 ODD	
MAIN STREET	4	M-11
	4 - 312 EVEN	
	123 - 321 ODD	
MAIN STREET	2	O-10
	398 - 650 EVEN	
MAIN STREET	6	R-11
	355 - 641 ODD	
	348 - 378 EVEN	
MAIN STREET	1	R-11
	660 - END	
	655 - END	
MALLARD ROAD	4	N-9
MAPLE STREET	4	L-10
MARIAN ROAD	3	L-8
MARSHALL PATH	1	T-11
MARTIN STREET	4	L-10
MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE	6	N-11
	151 - 299 ODD	
	186 - 222 EVEN	
MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE	3	M-8
	603 - 693 ODD	
	592 - 698 EVEN	
MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE	4	N-9
	310 - 598 EVEN	
	367 - 587 ODD	
MEAD TERRACE	3	M-8
MEADOWS EDGE	1	S-9
MEADOW BROOK ROAD	2	P-10
MEETINGHOUSE ROAD	5	M-12
MERRIAM LANE	5	M-11
MEYER HILL DRIVE	1	R-10
MILBERRY LANE	3	M-8
MILLDAM ROAD	1	S-11
MINOT AVENUE	6	O-11
MINUTEMAN ROAD	2	O-10
MOHAWK DRIVE	3	N-7
MOHEGAN ROAD	3	O-8
MONROE DRIVE	2	O-9
MOSSY LANE	1	R-11
MUSKET DRIVE	2	O-10

<u>STREET MAP</u>		
<u>STREET NAME</u>	<u>PRECINCT</u>	<u>INDEX</u>
MYRTLE DRIVE	6	P-12
NADINE ROAD	4	N-10
NAGOG HILL ROAD	6	Q-9
	1 - 59 ODD	
	12 - 48 EVEN	
NAGOG HILL ROAD	2	Q-9
	77 - END	
	74 - END	
NAGOG PARK	1	S-9
NAGOG SQUARE	1	S-9
NASH ROAD	4	L-9
NASHOBA ROAD	3	O-7
NEWTOWN ROAD	2	P-8
NONSET PATH	1	S-9
NORTHBRIAR ROAD	1	S-11
NORTH STREET	1	T-11
NOTRE DAME ROAD	3	L-8
NYLANDER WAY	4	M-10
OAKWOOD ROAD	5	N-12
	1 - 19 ODD	
OAKWOOD ROAD	6	N-12
	2 - 26 EVEN	
	21-END ODD	
OLD BEAVER BROOK	1	S-9
OLD CART PATH	1	Q-11
OLD COLONY LANE	5	N-13
OLD HIGH STREET	5	L-12
OLD MEADOW LANE	5	M-12
OLD OREGON TRAIL	1	Q-11
OLD STONE BROOK	1	S-9
OLD VILLAGE ROAD	6	P-11
OLDE BARN WAY	2	O-8
OLDE LANTERN ROAD	3	L-8
OLDE SURREY DRIVE	5	M-11
ONEIDA ROAD	3	O-8
ORCHARD DRIVE	3	N-7
OVERLOOK DRIVE	4	L-9
POXBOW DRIVE	1	Q-11
PALMER LANE	2	R-10
PARKER STREET	5	L-12
PARMLEY DRIVE	5	L-11
PARTRIDGE POND ROAD	6	O-10
PARTRIDGE HOLLOW	2	Q-10
PATRICK HENRY CIRCLE	3	L-7
PATRIOTS ROAD	2	P-10
PAUL REVERE ROAD	3	L-7
PEARL STREET	4	M-8
PERKINS LANE	3	N-8
PHALEN STREET	6	O-12
PHEASANT HILL	1	S-9
PHLOX LANE	6	P-12

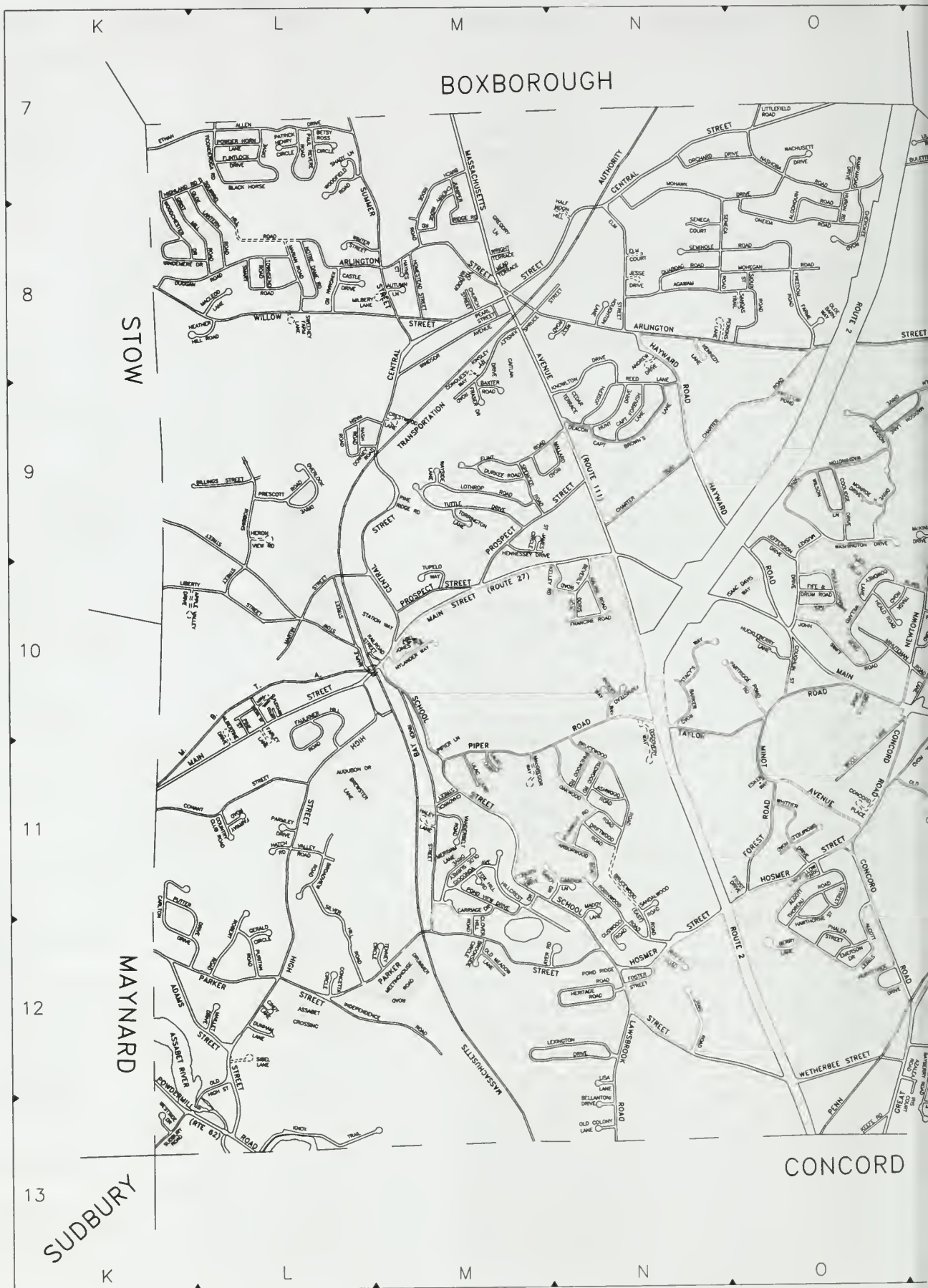
<u>STREET MAP</u>		
<u>STREET NAME</u>	<u>PRECINCT</u>	<u>INDEX</u>
PINE CONE STRAND	1	S-9
PINE STREET	4	L-10
PINE RIDGE ROAD	4	M-9
PINEWOOD ROAD	6	N-11
PIPER LANE	4	M-11
PIPER ROAD	4	M-11
	4 - 96 EVEN	
PIPER ROAD	5	M-11
	1 - 53 ODD	
PIPER ROAD	6	M-11
	63 - 79 ODD	
POND RIDGE DRIVE	5	N-12
POND VIEW DRIVE	5	M-11
POPE ROAD	1	Q-12
	196 - 258 EVEN	
	205 - 249 ODD	
POPE ROAD	6	Q-12
	16 - 190 EVEN	
	3 - 187 ODD	
POST OFFICE SQUARE	2	P-11
POWDER HORN LANE	3	L-7
POWDER MILL ROAD	5	L-13
PRESCOTT ROAD	4	L-9
PRESTON WAY	1	T-11
PROCTOR STREET	6	Q-12
PROSPECT STEET	4	M-10
PURITAN ROAD	5	L-12
PUTNAM ROAD	2	P-10
PUTTER DRIVE	5	K-11
QUABOAG ROAD	3	N-8
QUAIL RUN	1	R-11
QUARRY ROAD	1	S-10
RAILROAD STREET	4	M-10
REDWOOD ROAD	6	N-11
REEVE STREET	1	S-10
REVOLUTIONARY ROAD	2	O-10
REX LANE	1	S-11
RIVER STREET	5	M-11
ROBBINS STREET	4	L-9
ROBERT ROAD	5	L-12
ROBINWOOD ROAD	5	N-11
	1 - 29 ODD	
ROBINWOOD ROAD	6	N-11
	4 - 22 EVEN	
ROSE COURT	6	P-13
ROUTE 2		O-8, O-12
RUSSELL ROAD	6	N-12
SACHEM WAY	1	R-10
SAINT JAMES CIRCLE	4	M-9
SAMANTHA WAY	1	R-10
SAMUEL PARLIN DRIVE	2	P-9

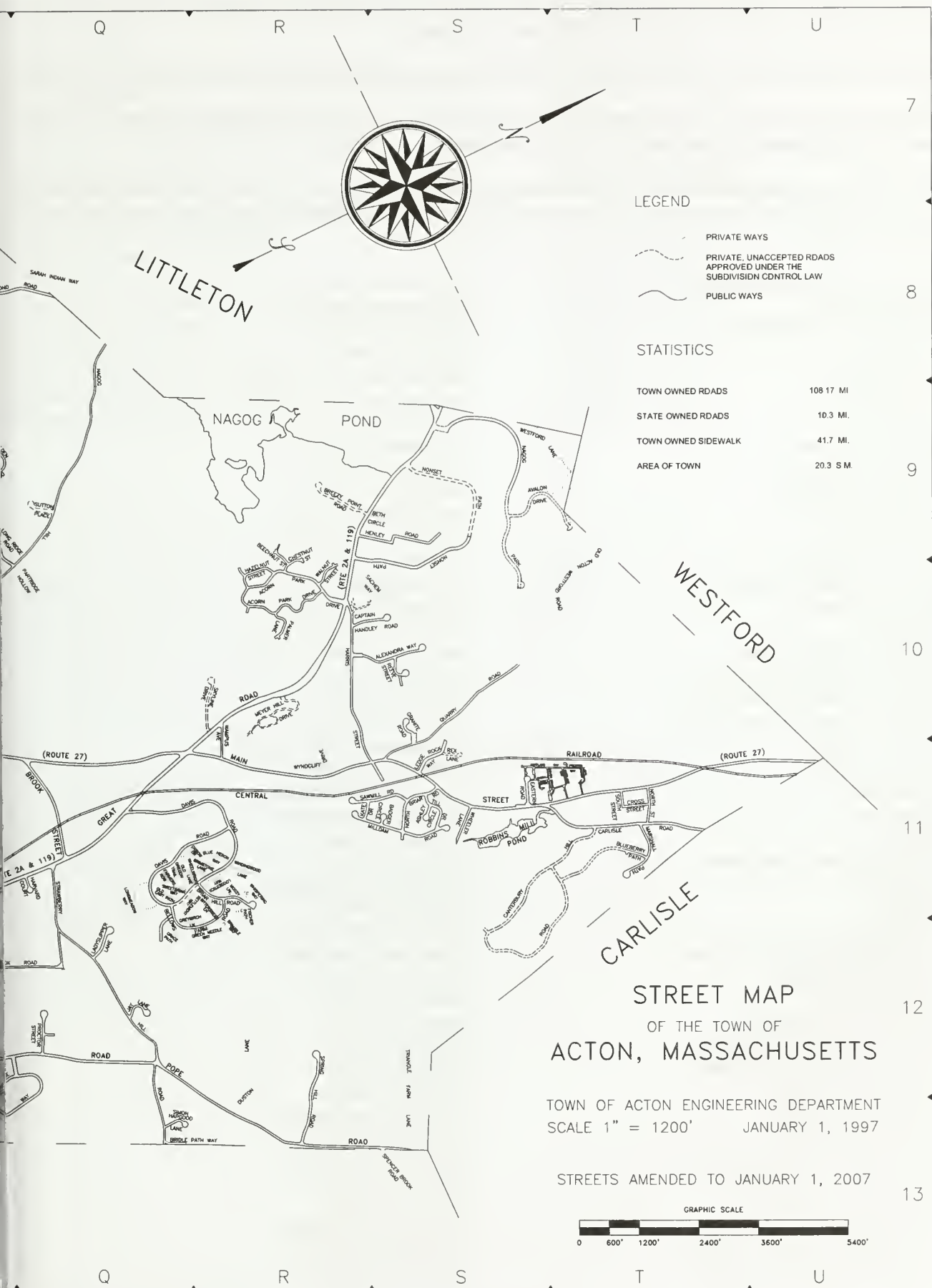
STREET MAP

STREET NAME	PRECINCT	INDEX
SANDALWOOD ROAD	6	N-11
SANDAS TRAIL	3	O-8
SANDY DRIVE	5	N-11
SARAH INDIAN WAY	2	Q-8
SAWMILL ROAD	1	S-11
SCHOOL STREET	4	M-10
	2 - 90 EVEN	
SCHOOL STREET	5	M-11
	100 - 248 EVEN	
	3 - 271 ODD	
SCHOOL STREET	6	M-10
	285 - 311 ODD	
	256 - 312 EVEN	
SEMINOLE ROAD	3	N-8
SENECA COURT	3	N-8
SENECA ROAD	3	N-8
SETTLEMENT WAY	1	R-11
SHADY LANE	3	L-7
SIBEL LANE	5	L-12
SILVER HILL ROAD	5	L-12
SIMON HAPGOOD LANE	1	Q-13
SIMON WILLARD ROAD	2	O-10
SIOUX STREET	3	O-8
SKYLINE DRIVE	2	R-10
SMART ROAD	3	L-8
SOUTH STREET	1	T-11
SPENCER BROOK ROAD	1	S-13
SPENCER ROAD	4	M-9
SPLIT ROCK	1	S-9
SPRING HILL ROAD	1	R-12
SPRUCE STREET	3	M-9
	30 - 70 EVEN	
	25 - 75 ODD	
SPRUCE STREET	4	M-8
	10 - 20 EVEN	
	5 - 11 ODD	
SQUIRREL HILL ROAD	3	L-8
STACY'S WAY	6	N-10
STATION WAY	4	M-10
STONEYMEDIAE WAY	6	P-12
STOW STREET	4	L-10
STRAWBERRY HILL ROAD	1	Q-12
	4 - END EVEN	
STRAWBERRY HILL ROAD	6	Q-12
	5 - END ODD	
SUDBURY ROAD	5	K-13
SUMMER STREET	4	M-8
	8 - 20 EVEN	
	13 - 23 ODD	
SUMMER STREET	3	M-8
	33 - END	
SUTTON PLACE	2	Q-9
SWEENEY FARM LANE	4	L-8
SWEETBRIAR WAY	1	Q-11

STREET MAP

STREET NAME	PRECINCT	INDEX
SYLVIA STREET	4	L-10
TAYLOR ROAD	6	O-10
TENNEY CIRCLE	5	M-12
THOREAU ROAD	6	D-11
TICONDEROGA ROAD	3	L-7
TILL DRIVE	1	S-11
TINSDALE DRIVE	1	T-11
TORRINGTON LANE	4	M-9
TOWNE HOUSE LANE	4	N-10
TOWNSEND ROAD	3	L-8
TRASK ROAD	2	O-10
TRIANGLE FARM LANE	1	S-13
TUMBLING HAWK	1	S-9
TUPELO WAY	4	M-10
TUTTLE DRIVE	4	M-9
VALLEY ROAD	5	L-11
VANDERBELT ROAD	5	M-11
WACHUSETT DRIVE	3	O-7
WALNUT STREET	2	R-10
WAMPANOAG DRIVE	3	O-7
WAMPUS AVENUE	1	R-10
WASHINGTON DRIVE	2	O-9
WATERSIDE CLEARING	1	S-9
WAYSIDE LANE	4	M-9
WEST ROAD	4	N-8
WESTFORD LANE	1	S-9
WESTSIDE DRIVE	5	K12
WETHERBEE STREET	6	O-12
WHEELER LANE	1	S-11
WHEELWRIGHT LANE	1	R-11
WHISPERING WAY	1	R-11
WHITTIER DRIVE	6	O-11
WILLIS HOLDEN DRIVE	2	P-9
WILLOW STREET	3	L-8
	5 - 179 ODD	
WILLOW STREET	4	L-8
	28 - 180 EVEN	
WILSON LANE	2	O-9
WINDEMERE DRIVE	3	K-8
WINDINGWOOD LANE	1	R-11
WINDSOR AVENUE	4	M-8
WINGATE LANE	6	P-12
WINTER STREET	3	L-8
WINTERBERRY PATH	1	R-11
WOOD LANE	6	O-11
WOODBURY LANE	2	P-10
WOODCHESTER DRIVE	3	K-8
WOODFIELD ROAD	3	L-7
WRIGHT TERRACE	3	M-8
WYNDCLIFF DRIVE	1	R-11





LITTLETON

NAGOG POND

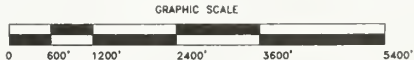
WESTFORD

CARLISLE

STREET MAP OF THE TOWN OF ACTON, MASSACHUSETTS

TOWN OF ACTON ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT
SCALE 1" = 1200' JANUARY 1, 1997

STREETS AMENDED TO JANUARY 1, 2007



LEGEND

- PRIVATE WAYS
- PRIVATE, UNACCEPTED ROADS
APPROVED UNDER THE
SUBDIVISION CONTROL LAW
- PUBLIC WAYS

STATISTICS

TOWN OWNED ROADS	108.17 MI.
STATE OWNED ROADS	10.3 MI.
TOWN OWNED SIDEWALK	41.7 MI.
AREA OF TOWN	20.3 S.M.

The Town maintains electronic mail ("Email") distribution groups for all Boards, Committees and Commissions, as well as Departments. Such groups are commonly referred to as "shells."

Emails sent to shells are automatically forwarded to all members of the group who have provided their e-mail address to the Town.

Using email does not satisfy Open Meeting Law requirements (Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 39, Section 23B). Please direct questions regarding this law to the Town Clerk.

To use a shell, send your e-mail to the address listed in the right-hand column of this table. When replying to an e-mail sent to a shell, it is recommended that you use the "Reply to All" function of your e-mail program so that all members are copied on your reply.

Acton Community Housing Corporation	achc@acton-ma.gov
Acton Leadership Group	alg@acton-ma.gov
Acton-Boxborough Cultural Council	abcc@acton-ma.gov
Appeals, Board of	boa@acton-ma.gov
Assessor Department	assessor@acton-ma.gov
Assessors, Board of	bas@acton-ma.gov
Building Department	building@acton-ma.gov
Cable Advisory Committee	cac@acton-ma.gov
Cemetery Department	cemetery@acton-ma.gov
Citizens' Library Department	wacl@acton-ma.gov
Clerk Department, Town	clerk@acton-ma.gov
Collector Department	collector@acton-ma.gov
Commission on Disability	cod@acton-ma.gov
Community Preservation Committee	cpc@acton-ma.gov
Conservation Commission	conscom@acton-ma.gov
Council on Aging	coa@acton-ma.gov
Council on Aging (Senior Center)	seniorcenter@acton-ma.gov
East Acton Village Planning Committee	eav@acton-ma.gov
Economic Development Committee	edc@acton-ma.gov
Emergency Management Agency, Acton	ema@acton-ma.gov
Engineering Department	engineering@acton-ma.gov
Fair Housing Committee	fhc@acton-ma.gov
Finance Committee	fincom@acton-ma.gov
Finance Department	finance@acton-ma.gov
Fire Department	fire@acton-ma.gov
Hanscom Field Advisory Committee	hfac@acton-ma.gov
Health Department	health@acton-ma.gov
Health, Board of	boh@acton-ma.gov
Highway Department	highway@acton-ma.gov
Historic District Bylaw Study Committee	hdbsc@acton-ma.gov
Historic District Commission	hdc@acton-ma.gov
Historical Commission	hc@acton-ma.gov
Human Resources Department	hr@acton-ma.gov
Information Technology Department	it@acton-ma.gov
Joint Technology Advisory Committee	jtac@acton-ma.gov
Land Stewardship Committee	lsc@acton-ma.gov
Manager Department, Town	manager@acton-ma.gov
Memorial Library Department	library@acton-ma.gov
Metropolitan Advisory Planning Council	mapc@acton-ma.gov
Municipal Properties Department	mp@acton-ma.gov
Natural Resources Department	nr@acton-ma.gov
Nursing Department	nursing@acton-ma.gov
Open Space and Recreation Committee	osrc@acton-ma.gov
Outdoor Lighting Advisory Committee	olac@acton-ma.gov

Parking Clerk
Personnel Board
Planning Board
Planning Department
Police Department
Public Ceremonies Committee
Public Safety Facilities Building Committee
Recreation Commission
Recreation Department
School Committee, Acton-Boxborough Reg
School Committee, Acton Public
Selectmen, Board of
Senior Taxation Aid Committee
South Acton Revitalization Committee
Town Report Committee
Transportation Advisory Committee
Treasurer's Advisory Committee
Volunteer Coordinating Committee
Wastewater Advisory Committee

parkingclerk@acton-ma.gov
peb@acton-ma.gov
pb@acton-ma.gov
planning@acton-ma.gov
police@acton-ma.gov
pcc@acton-ma.gov
psfbc@acton-ma.gov
reccom@acton-ma.gov
recreation@acton-ma.gov
abrsc@acton-ma.gov
apsc@acton-ma.gov
bos@acton-ma.gov
stac@acton-ma.gov
sarc@acton-ma.gov
trc@acton-ma.gov
tac@acton-ma.gov
trac@acton-ma.gov
vcc@acton-ma.gov
wac@acton-ma.gov

TOWN OF ACTON VOLUNTEER APPLICATION

Residents interested in serving on a Town Board, Committee, or Commission are requested to complete this form and forward it to the office of the Town Manager at the Acton Town Hall.

(Please print or type)

Date: _____

Mr/Mrs.
Ms/Dr. Last Name _____ First Name _____ Middle Initial _____

Street Address _____ Home Phone _____ Email _____

Please refer to the other side of this sheet and indicate below, in order of preference, the Board, Committee, or Commission,

which is of interest to you:

1) _____

2) _____

3) _____

Have you been a member of a Board, Committee, or Commission previously (either in Acton or elsewhere)? If you have, please

list name(s) and dates (approx):

Do you have any time restrictions? _____

How long have you lived in Acton? _____ in Massachusetts? _____

Are you a US citizen? _____

Present occupation and employer? (optional-attach resume) _____

Do you or your employer have any current or potential business relationship with the Town of Acton that could create a conflict of interest? _____

Education or special training _____

Please list below any additional information or comments which may help in the matching of your interests with the most appropriate Board/Committee, such as a civic experience, special interest/hobbies, etc.: _____

TOWN OF ACTON VOLUNTEER BOARDS, COMMITTEES AND COMMISSIONS

Acton-Boxborough Arts Council
Aging, Council on
Appeals, Board of
Assessors, Board of
Cable Advisory Committee
Cemetery Commission
Commission on Disability
Conservation Commission
Fair Housing Committee
Finance Committee
Volunteer Coordinating Committee

Historic District Commission
Historical Commission
Metropolitan Advisory Planning Council
Minuteman Home Care
Minuteman Vocational School Representative
Planning Board
Prison Advisory Board
Public Ceremonies Committee
South Acton Revitalization Committee
Town Report Committee
Health, Board of

Thank you. If you have any questions or would like more information, please contact a member of the Volunteer Coordinating Committee (you can find out who the current members are by calling the Town Manager's office at Town Hall 978-264-9612). The space below is for use by the Volunteer Coordinating Committee and the appointing body to record the status of your application.

VCC INTERVIEW

Applicant called: date/by _____

Schedule date/time _____

VCC Recommendation: Date _____

Board(s) _____ Member/Alt/Assoc

_____ Member/Alt/Assoc

_____ Member/Alt/Assoc

_____ Member/Alt/Assoc

BOS/TMgr/TMod _____

[] No openings at this time _____

APPOINTING BODY: BOS/Mgr/TMod

Interview Date: _____

Appointed: Date _____

to: Board _____

Term _____

NOTIFICATION OF APPOINTMENT

Date Received by VCC _____

Notification by the VCC _____

Date committee notified _____

Date applicant notified _____

AT YOUR SERVICE

EMERGENCIES

Call 911 to save a life, report a fire, or stop a crime. Give your name, address and phone number.
For other calls, use the business number of the appropriate department.

For questions concerning:

	Call:	Telephone
Animal Inspection	Animal Inspector	263-4979
Assessments	Board of Assessors	264-9622
Bills and Accounts	Town Accountant	264-9621
Births, Deaths, and Marriages	Town Clerk	264-9615
Buildings	Building Commissioner	264-9632
Cemeteries	Cemetery Department	264-9644
Civil Defense	Director of Civil Defense	264-9655
Conservation	Conservation Office	264-9631
Dog Problems (see Licenses)	Dog Officer	264-9638
Education Information	School Superintendent's Office	264-4700
Elderly Affairs	Council on Aging	264-9643
	Minuteman Home Care	263-8720
	Public Health Nursing Service	264-9653
Elections, Voting and Registration	Town Clerk	264-9615
Engineering	Town Engineer	264-9628
Fire (Business and Permits)	Fire Department	264-9645
Garbage and Refuse	Board of Health	264-9634
Hazardous Materials	Board of Health	264-9634
Health and Sanitation	Board of Health	264-9634
Highways and Streets	Highway Department	264-9624
Home Nursing	Public Health Nursing Service	264-9653
Housing	Housing Authority	263-5339
Libraries	Acton Memorial Library	264-9641
	Citizen's Library of West Acton	264-9652
	T.D.D. (for the deaf)	635-0072
Licenses: Dog, Fishing, Hunting	Town Clerk	264-9615
Mental Health	Mental Health Assoc. of Central Middlesex	369-7715

Permits

Blasting	Fire Department	264-9645
Building	Building Inspector	264-9632
Food Service	Board of Health	264-9634
Heating	Fire Department	264-9645
Historic Districts Certificate	Building Department	264-9632
Oil Burner	Fire Department	264-9645
Outdoor Burning	Fire Department	264-9645
Plumbing	Building Department	264-9632
Sewage	Board of Health	264-9634
Smoke Detector	Fire Department	264-9645
Wiring	Building Department	264-9632
Zoning	Zoning Enforcement Officer	264-9636
Planning	Planning Department (Fair Housing)	264-9636
Police Business	Police Department	264-9638
Recreation	Town Hall	
264-9608		
Selectmen	Town Hall	264-9611

For questions concerning:

Street Lights
 Street Trees
 264-9629
 Tax Collections
 Town Finances
 Town Manager
 Train Service
 Transfer Station/Recycle Center
 Veterans' Services
 Water Problems
 Welfare
 Wire Inspection
 Zoning
 Zoning Appeals

Call:

Municipal Properties

 Treasurer and Collector
 Treasurer
 Town Hall
 Boston and Maine
 Highway Department
 Veterans' Agent
 Water District
 Welfare Department
 Wire Inspector
 Zoning Enforcement Officer
 Board of Appeals

Telephone

264-9629
 Municipal Properties

 264-9617
 264-9617
 264-9612
 800-392-6100
 264-9624
 264-9617
 263-9107
 978-893-0146
 263-9632
 264-9636
 264-9632

Schools

Switchboard Calls (7 a.m. - 4 p.m.) 264-4700
 Acton-Boxborough Regional High School 264-4700
 Acton-Boxborough Regional Junior High School 264-4700
 Community Education Office 266-2525
 Conant School 266-2550
 Douglas School 266-2560
 Gates School 266-2570
 McCarthy-Towne School 264-4700
 Merriam School 264-4700
 Central Office (all schools) 264-4700
 Community Education at High School 264-4700 x 403
 Community Education at Junior High School 264-4700 x 304
 Athletic Office 264-4700 x 420
 Field Office 264-4700 x 423
 Extended Day Programs 264-4700 x 245
 Acton-Boxborough Regional High School 264-4700 x 409
 Acton-Boxborough Junior High School 264-4700 x 309

School Nurse**Night Calls****Special Calls****Custodian****REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETINGS****Meeting Times Can Be Checked By Calling Town Clerk's Office**

Acton Finance Committee	Tuesday 7:30 PM As Posted	Town Hall
Acton Historical Commission	2nd Wednesday 8 PM	Town Hall
Acton Housing Authority	1st & 3rd Monday 7:30- PM	68 Windsor Ave., West Acton
Acton Memorial Library Trustees	4th Monday 7:30 PM	Conference Room
Board of Appeals	As Posted	Town Hall
Board of Assessors	1st Wednesday 6 PM	Town Hall
Board of Health	2nd & 4th Monday 7:30 PM	Town Hall
Board of Selectmen	Every other Monday As Posted 7:00 PM	Town Hall
Cable Advisory	As Posted	
Cemetery Commission	2nd Tuesday 2 PM	Woodlawn Building
Citizens' Library	3rd Thursday 7:30 PM	Citizens' Library, West Acton
Commission on Disability	2nd Wednesday 7 PM	Town Hall
Community Housing	1st & 3rd Thursday 7 AM	Town Hall
Conservation Commission	1st & 3rd Wednesday 7:30 PM	Town Hall
Council on Aging	2nd Wednesday (except August) 7:30 PM	Senior Center, Audubon Drive
Historic District Commission	1st & 3rd Monday 7:30 PM	Town Hall
Planning Board	2nd & 4th Tuesday 7:30 PM	Acton Memorial Library
Recreation Commission	4th Tuesday 7:30 PM	Town Hall
School Committee - Local	As Posted	Junior High Library
School Committee - Regional	As Posted	High School Library
Transportation	2nd Tues. 7:30 PM	Town Hall
Volunteer Coordinating Committee	2nd & 4th Monday 7:30 PM	Town Hall
Water Commissioners	2nd & 4th Monday 7:30 PM	Whitcomb Station, 693 Mass. Ave.